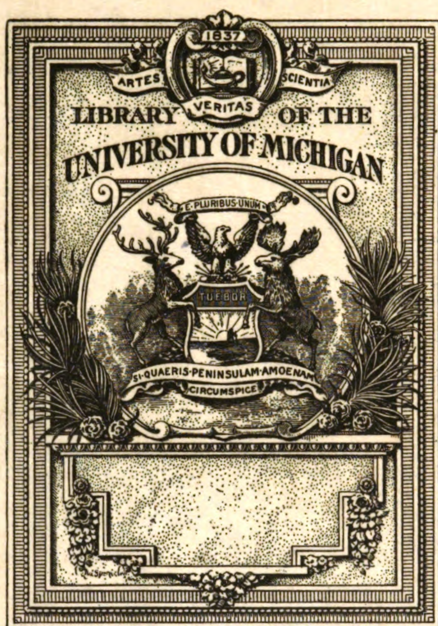


U.S. Dept. of State

Affairs in Mexico.


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64TH CONGRESS, 1st Session | SENATE | DOCUMENT No. 324

AFFAIRS IN MEXICO

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

IN RESPONSE TO A SENATE RESOLUTION OF
JANUARY 6, 1916, CERTAIN INFORMATION
RELATIVE TO AFFAIRS IN MEXICO



FEBRUARY 17, 1916.—Read; ordered to lie on the table
and to be printed

WASHINGTON
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
1916

SUBMITTED BY MR. FALL.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
January 6, 1916.

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interests, to inform the Senate upon the following subjects and to transmit to the Senate the documents, letters, reports, orders, and so forth, hereinafter referred to:

First. Is there a government now existing in the Republic of Mexico; and if so,

Second. Is such government recognized by this Government; how is such government maintained, and where; who is now the recognized head of such government, and is the same a constitutional government?

Third. By what means was the recognition of any government in Mexico brought about, and what proceedings, if any, were followed prior to and resulting in recognition, in any conference between this country and Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Guatemala, and any other country or countries?

Fourth. What assurances has the Government of Mexico given this Government as to its course in protecting American lives and property in Mexico and in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, and California; and, if such assurances have been given, what evidence has this Government of the ability of such Government to fulfill its promises and obligations in the premises?

Fifth. What orders or instructions have been issued to our officials and armed forces on or near the Mexican border for the protection of the lives, property, and peace of American citizens along said border?

Sixth. What assurances have been received from the Mexican Government, or requested by this Government, as to payment of American damage claims for injury to life or property of our citizens resulting from the acts of Mexico or citizens of that country within the past five years?

Seventh. What assurances have been given by the Mexican Government as to the protection of foreigners and citizens, and particularly in the free exercise of their religion, in public or in private?

Eighth. Reports of the Brazilian minister to Mexico made to this Government by letter or otherwise while said minister was representing this Government in Mexico; also reports of American consuls and consular representatives in Mexico during the past four years, together with reports from any special or other sources of information available or in hand concerning or relating to Mexican affairs and conditions, or to Mexican officials or military and factional leaders; reports of the actions of the Red Cross in Mexico, and their reports to this Government.

Ninth. Data, letters, and reports relating to the closing of the port of El Paso and reopening same to importations of meat from Juarez, and also to the setting aside or revocation of any decrees or orders of Villa concerning mining property.

Tenth. Information concerning the occupation of Vera Cruz by our land and naval forces; duration of such occupation; our administration of affairs during such occupancy; and the date and cause of the evacuation of Vera Cruz, with all correspondence concerning such evacuation.

Attest:

JAMES M. BAKER, *Secretary.*

MESSAGE OF TRANSMITTAL.

To the Senate:

In response to the resolution adopted by the Senate on January 6, 1916, requesting the President to inform the Senate, if not incompatible with the public interests, upon certain subjects respecting the situation in Mexico, and to transmit to the Senate the documents, letters, reports, orders, and so forth, therein referred to, I transmit herewith a report by the Secretary of State, with accompanying papers.

The report of the Secretary of State has my approval.

WOODROW WILSON.

The WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, February 17, 1916.

LIST OF PAPERS.

LETTER OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE PRESIDENT.

To the PRESIDENT:

The resolution adopted by the United States Senate on January 6, 1916, requesting to be furnished, if not incompatible with the public interest, with documents, letters, reports, orders, etc., relating to the Mexican situation, having been referred by you to the Department of State for report, I have the honor to state, after earnest consideration of the request in the light of such study as the department has given this subject for a period of several years, that I believe it to be incompatible with the public interest to transmit to the Senate, at the present time, the voluminous correspondence called for by the resolution between the Department of State and the representatives of the United States in Mexico, or that between this department and representatives of the de facto Government of Mexico, of which Gen. Venustiano Carranza is the Chief Executive.

In response, however, to the inquiries made in the resolution, I have had prepared the following concise statement, together with copies of certain pertinent documents which are hereto appended:

(1) The government at present existing in Mexico is a de facto government, established by military power, which has definitely committed itself to the holding of popular elections upon the restoration of domestic peace.

(2) This de facto Government of Mexico, of which Gen. Venustiano Carranza is the Chief Executive, was recognized by the Government of the United States on October 19, 1915, and a copy of the letter to Mr. Eliseo Arredondo, the representative of the de facto government at this capital, informing him of such recognition is hereto appended (inclosure No. 1). The said de facto government has since been recognized by substantially all the countries of Latin America; also by Great Britain, France, Italy, Russia, Japan, Austria-Hungary, Germany, and Spain; and several other countries have recently announced their intention of extending recognition. The said de facto government is at present being maintained at Queretaro, near Mexico City.

It can not be said that the de facto Government of Mexico is a constitutional government. The de facto government, like the majority of revolutionary governments, is of a military character, but, as already stated, that government has committed itself to the holding of elections, and it is confidently expected that the present government will, within a reasonable time, be merged in or succeeded by a government organized under the constitution and laws of Mexico.

(3) After July, 1914, the revolutionary party became divided into factions, thereby delaying the pacification of the country. Meanwhile, this Government took no action, hoping that these factions would, by reunion, be able to restore order. As this desirable result had not been achieved up to June 2, 1915, the President's statement

of that date, containing a warning to the leaders of the factions, was telegraphed to the American consular officers in Mexico, for circulation. A copy of this statement is appended hereto (inclosure No. 2).

Several weeks after the statement was issued, as the factional differences seemed to be no nearer to a settlement, this Government sounded the six ranking diplomatic representatives of Latin-America as to whether they would confer and advise with this Government in regard to formulating some practicable plan, if possible, for the solution of the Mexican problem. Under instructions from their respective governments, these representatives signified their desire to cooperate with this Government, and the first conference with the representatives was held on August 5, last.

As a result of that conference the ambassadors of Argentina, Brazil, and Chile, the ministers of Bolivia, Uruguay, and Guatemala, and the Secretary of State of the United States, acting severally, signed an appeal to the civil and military leaders of the revolutionary factions in Mexico, suggesting that the latter hold a conference to discuss a peaceful settlement of their differences and offered to act as intermediaries to arrange the time, place, and other details of such conference. Identical communications in this sense were, under date of August 13 and 14 last, sent by telegraph to all generals, governors, and other leaders known to be exercising civil or military authority in Mexico. A copy of this communication is appended (inclosure No. 3).

The attempt to bring the factions together for a conference failed.

Substantially all the commanders and others in authority who were associated with Gen. Villa, replied directly and independently, in varied language, accepting the suggestion for a conference. On the other hand, all the commanders and others in authority who were affiliated with Gen. Carranza replied briefly to the effect that the appeal had been referred to Gen. Carranza, whose superior authority they acknowledged, and who would make such reply as he deemed proper. The inference to be drawn was plain. On the one hand, there seemed to be no central organization among the Villista forces, while, on the other hand, submission to a central authority was evidenced in the replies of the Carranzistas. The unity and loyalty of the Carranzistas appeared to indicate the ultimate triumph of that faction, especially as the Carranzista forces were then in control of approximately 75 per cent of the territory of Mexico. Accordingly the conferees, after careful and impartial consideration of all the circumstances, decided unanimously to recommend severally to their respective governments that in their opinion the government of which Gen. Carranza was the leader should be recognized as the de facto government of Mexico.

(4) There is appended hereto a copy of a letter from Mr. Eliseo Arredondo, the local representative of Gen. Carranza in Washington, dated October 7, 1915 (inclosure No. 4), transmitting several documents (inclosures 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, and 4F), setting forth the program of the de facto government with respect to the protection of the lives and property of foreigners in Mexico, the settlement of claims arising from the disturbed conditions, and other matters appertaining to the restoration of order.

As to the ability of the de facto government to fulfill its promises to protect lives and properties along the border, the undersigned has

the honor to call your attention to the fact that since assurances in this respect were given to this Government by the de facto government, the disturbances along the border have in a large measure ceased. In this connection a copy of a letter from the Secretary of War, dated February 10, 1916 (inclosure No. 5), and copies of weekly reports Nos. 146 and 148 for the weeks ending January 1 and January 15, 1916, prepared by the War Department, concerning general conditions along the Mexican border (inclosures Nos. 5A and 5B), are hereto appended. It will be seen from these reports that conditions along the border are practically normal.

In respect to the evidence in the possession of this Government of the ability of the de facto government of Mexico to fulfill its promises and obligations relative to protecting American lives and property in Mexico, the department's information indicates that the de facto government is now in control of all but a few sections of Mexico, and that, bearing in mind that the nation is just emerging from years of domestic strife, it may be said that within the territory which it controls it is affording, in all the circumstances, reasonably adequate protection to the lives and property of American citizens and that it is taking steps to extend its authority over and restore order in sections now in the hands of hostile factions. In this connection, however, it should be stated that the lawless conditions which have long continued throughout a large part of the territory of Mexico are not easy to remedy and that the great number of bandits who have infested certain districts and devastated property in such territory can not be suppressed immediately, but that their suppression will require some time for its accomplishment, pending which it may be expected that they will commit sporadic outrages upon lives and property.

(5) With reference to the protection of the lives and property of American citizens on or near the Mexican border, there is inclosed herewith an extract from a letter on the subject from the Secretary of War, dated January 26, 1916 (inclosure No. 6).

(6) With regard to the settlement of American claims against the Mexican Republic for injuries to the lives or property of American citizens, the undersigned has the honor to direct your attention to to the copy of a letter from Mr. Arredondo, dated October 7, 1915, and its inclosures, heretofore referred to and hereto appended as inclosure No. 4, and its annexes.

(7) With reference to the assurances given by the Mexican government concerning the protection of foreigners and "citizens," particularly respecting the free exercise of religion, the undersigned incloses herewith a copy of a letter on the subject from Mr. Arredondo, dated October 8, 1915 (inclosure No. 7).

(8) As heretofore stated, it is not considered compatible with the public interest to transmit to the Senate at the present time the correspondence regarding political conditions in Mexico. Much of this correspondence is of a highly confidential nature, submitted by the consular officers of the United States, by diplomatic or consular officers of other Governments, which have graciously consented that their officers might supply this Government with information during the necessary absence of American representatives, and by other persons residing in Mexico. To reveal the contents of the reports submitted by representatives of the United States and by

the representatives of other Governments, would be incompatible with public interest, as it would tend to impair the usefulness of these officials to their respective Governments; and to make public the personal and frequently confidential statements submitted from time to time by civilians, might seriously embarrass them.

It may be added that the papers requested by the Senate resolution comprise thousands of documents, the greater part of which set forth individual opinions and suggestions from different points of view, and therefore contain a mass of divergent and contradictory matter incapable of reduction to a harmonious statement of fact regarding the situation in Mexico or of the plans proposed for its improvement.

(9) With reference to the request for "data, letters, and reports relating to the closing of the port of El Paso and reopening same to importations of meat from Juarez," the undersigned has the honor to state that the port of El Paso has not been closed during this administration to the importation of meats from Juarez. If meats from Juarez were at any time prohibited entry into the United States, it was because such meats were not properly prepared to pass the inspection maintained under the regulations of the Department of Agriculture of this Government and not because the port of El Paso was closed to any particular class of imports.

With respect to the revocation of the mining decree issued by Gen. Villa, the undersigned incloses an extract from a dispatch from the American consul at Chihuahua, dated July 31, 1915 (inclosure No. 8), and a copy of the department's reply thereto, dated August 11, 1915 (inclosure No. 8A). There is also inclosed a copy of a telegram in regard to this matter from the Mine and Smelter Operators' Association, dated at El Paso, Tex., August 6, 1915 (inclosure No. 8B), together with a copy of an undated telegram from Mr. George C. Carothers, the department's special agent, received by the department on August 12, 1915 (inclosure No. 8C), stating that Gen. Villa's mining decree would not be enforced.

(10) Concerning the occupation and evacuation of Vera Cruz by United States land and naval forces, the undersigned has the honor to inclose a copy of Admiral Fletcher's telegram to the Secretary of the Navy, dated April 9, 1914 (inclosure No. 9), quoting a telegram from Admiral Mayo, of the same date, reporting the arrest at Tampico of the paymaster and a boat's crew of the U. S. S. *Dolphin*; a copy of a letter from the Secretary of the Navy, dated January 19, 1916 (inclosure No. 9A); and an extract from a letter from the Secretary of War, dated January 26, 1916 (inclosure No. 9B), hereinbefore mentioned as inclosure No. 6, in which reference is made to border conditions.

When the arrest of the men mentioned was reported to the Department of State, informal negotiations were immediately begun with the Huertista government with a view of settling the difficulty, but owing to the refusal of Gen. Huerta to comply with Admiral Mayo's demand for a salute, the negotiations were suspended. The American consuls in Mexico were informed by telegraph on April 20 1914, that the negotiations had been suspended, and that the President would lay the matter before the Congress on that date, with a view to taking such action as might be necessary to obtain reparation for the offense against the flag and Navy of the United States, and

they were instructed to advise Americans to withdraw from Mexican territory.

On September 15, 1914, 7 p. m., the Department of State dispatched a telegram to the minister of Brazil at Mexico City, temporarily in charge of American interests, for delivery by him to Vice Consul Silliman, in which the latter was instructed to say to Gen. Carranza that the President was arranging to withdraw the American troops from Vera Cruz, and that he desired that some responsible authority be named to whom the customhouse could be turned over and that officials be designated to whom authority in the city could be delivered. On September 22, a telegram was sent to the minister of Brazil, in which the Carranza government was requested to give certain assurances in regard to the payment of taxes, treatment of refugees at Vera Cruz, and other matters. A copy of this telegram is inclosed herewith (inclosure No. 10).

On November 10, 1914, the minister of Brazil at Mexico City telegraphed Gen. Carranza's reply to the assurances requested on September 22. A copy of this telegram is inclosed herewith (inclosure No. 11).

I have also the honor to append a list (inclosure No. 12) of the citizens of the United States, who, from various causes, have lost their lives in Mexico during the years 1913, 1914, and 1915. The total is 76. From the latter part of February, 1913, when the military operations against Gen. Huerta began, to the close of the year 1915, a period of 34 months, a great portion of the territory of Mexico was the scene of domestic strife. Yet it may be noted that during the years 1910, 1911, and 1912, when a much smaller area was disturbed by war, 47 Americans lost their lives in Mexico (inclosure No. 12A); and this was at a time when the country was assumed to be at peace, since the Madero revolution, which began on November 20, 1910, lasted only six months.

While 76 Americans lost their lives in the entire territory of Mexico during the years 1913, 1914, and 1915, in the same period there were 20 civilian Americans and 16 American soldiers killed on American soil, adjacent to the international boundary (inclosures Nos. 12B and 12C), and during those years there were approximately 92 Mexicans killed in the same area (inclosure No. 12D).

These figures indicate that a condition of lawlessness prevailed along the border, due in large measure to factional conflicts in Mexican territory for ports of entry, and to the unfriendly personal relations existing between the American and Mexican residents in that region. The department, however, has no reliable information as to the number of Mexicans killed on the Mexican side of the boundary and in its immediate vicinity as a consequence of this state of disorder.

Respectfully submitted.

ROBERT LANSING.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, February 12, 1916.

[Inclosure No. 1.]

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO MR. ARREDONDO.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, October 19, 1915.

MY DEAR MR. ARREDONDO: It is my pleasure to inform you that the President of the United States takes this opportunity of extending recognition to the de facto government of Mexico, of which Gen. Venustiano Carranza is the Chief Executive.

The Government of the United States will be pleased to receive formally in Washington a diplomatic representative of the de facto government as soon as it shall please Gen. Carranza to designate and appoint such representative; and, reciprocally, the Government of the United States will accredit to the de facto government a diplomatic representative as soon as the President has had opportunity to designate such representative.

I should appreciate it if you could find it possible to communicate this information to Gen. Carranza at your earliest convenience.

Very sincerely, yours,

ROBERT LANSING.

[Inclosure No. 2.]

STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT WITH REGARD TO MEXICO.

For more than two years revolutionary conditions have existed in Mexico. The purpose of the revolution was to rid Mexico of men who ignored the constitution of the Republic and used their power in contempt of the rights of its people; and with these purposes the people of the United States instinctively and generously sympathized. But the leaders of the revolution, in the very hour of their success, have disagreed and turned their arms against one another. All professing the same objects, they are, nevertheless, unable or unwilling to cooperate. A central authority at Mexico City is no sooner set up than it is undermined and its authority denied by those who were expected to support it. Mexico is apparently no nearer a solution of her tragical troubles than she was when the revolution was first kindled. And she has been swept by civil war as if by fire. Her crops are destroyed, her fields lie unseeded, her work cattle are confiscated for the use of the armed factions, her people flee to the mountains to escape being drawn into unavailing bloodshed, and no man seems to see or lead the way to peace and settled order. There is no proper protection either for her own citizens or for the citizens of other nations resident and at work within her territory. Mexico is starving and without a government.

In these circumstances the people and Government of the United States can not stand indifferently by and do nothing to serve their neighbor. They want nothing for themselves in Mexico. Least of all do they desire to settle her affairs for her, or claim any right to do so. But neither do they wish to see utter ruin come upon her, and they deem it their duty as friends and neighbors to lend any aid they properly can to any instrumentality which promises to be effective in bringing about a settlement which will embody the real objects of the revolution—constitutional government and the rights

of the people. Patriotic Mexicans are sick at heart and cry out for peace and for every self-sacrifice that may be necessary to procure it. Their people cry out for food and will presently hate as much as they fear every man, in their country or out of it, who stands between them and their daily bread.

It is time, therefore, that the Government of the United States should frankly state the policy which in these extraordinary circumstances it becomes its duty to adopt. It must presently do what it has not hitherto done or felt at liberty to do, lend its active moral support to some man or group of men, if such may be found, who can rally the suffering people of Mexico to their support in an effort to ignore, if they can not unite, the warring factions of the country, return to the constitution of the Republic so long in abeyance, and set up a government at Mexico City which the great powers of the world can recognize and deal with, a government with whom the program of the revolution will be a business and not merely a platform. I therefore publicly and very solemnly call upon the leaders of faction in Mexico to act, to act together, and to act promptly for the relief and redemption of their prostrate country. I feel it to be my duty to tell them that, if they can not accommodate their differences and unite for this great purpose within a very short time, this Government will be constrained to decide what means should be employed by the United States in order to help Mexico save herself and serve her people.

WASHINGTON, *June 2, 1915.*

APPEAL TO GENERALS, GOVERNORS, AND OTHER MEXICAN LEADERS.

[Inclosure No. 3. Sent to all consuls in Mexico under date of Aug. 13 and 14, 1914.]

[Translation.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., *August 11, 1915.*

The undersigned, the Secretary of State of the United States, the ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Brazil, Chile, and Argentina, and the envoys extraordinary and ministers plenipotentiary of Bolivia, Uruguay, and Guatemala, accredited to the Government of the United States of America, acting severally and independently, unanimously send to you the following communication:

Inspired by the most sincere spirit of American fraternity, and convinced that they rightly interpret the earnest wish of the entire continent, have met informally at the suggestion of the Secretary of State of the United States to consider the Mexican situation and to ascertain whether their friendly and disinterested help could be successfully employed to reestablish peace and constitutional order in our sister Republic.

In the heat of the frightful struggle which for so long has steeped in blood the Mexican soil, doubtless all may well have lost sight of the dissolving effects of the strife upon the most vital conditions of the national existence, not only upon the life and liberty of the inhabitants, but on the prestige and security of the country. We can not doubt, however—no one can doubt—that in the presence of a sympathetic appeal from their brothers of America, recalling to

them these disastrous effects, asking them to save their motherland from an abyss—no one can doubt, we repeat—that the patriotism of the men who lead or aid in any way the bloody strife will not remain unmoved; no one can doubt that each and every one of them, measuring in his own conscience his share in the responsibilities of past misfortune and looking forward to his share in the glory of the pacification and reconstruction of the country, will respond, nobly and resolutely, to this friendly appeal and give their best efforts to opening the way to some saving action.

We, the undersigned, believe that if the men directing the armed movements in Mexico—whether political or military chiefs—should agree to meet, either in person or by delegates, far from the sound of cannon, and with no other inspiration save the thought of their afflicted land, there to exchange ideas and to determine the fate of the country—from such action would undoubtedly result the strong and unyielding agreement requisite to the creation of a provisional government, which should adopt the first steps necessary to the constitutional reconstruction of the country—and to issue the first and most essential of them all, the immediate call to general elections.

An adequate place within the Mexican frontiers, which for the purpose might be neutralized, should serve as the seat of the conference; and in order to bring about a conference of this nature the undersigned, or any of them, will willingly, upon invitation, act as intermediaries to arrange the time, place, and other details of such conference, if this action can in any way aid the Mexican people.

The undersigned expect a reply to this communication within a reasonable time; and consider that such a time would be 10 days after the communication is delivered, subject to prorogation for cause.

ROBERT LANSING,
Secretary of State of the United States.
D. DA GAMA,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brazil.
EDO. SUÁREZ-MUJICA,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Chile.
R. S. NAÓN,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Argentina.
I. CALDERON,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Bolivia.
CARLOS MARIA DE PENA,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Uruguay.
JOAQUÍN MÉNDEZ,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Guatemala.

[Inclosure No. 4.]

MR. ARREDONDO TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

AGENCIA CONFIDENCIAL DEL
GOBIERNO CONSTITUCIONALISTA DE MÉXICO,
Washington, D. C., October 7, 1915.

Mr. SECRETARY: In consideration of the agreement between your excellency and the other American representatives, during the last conference held in New York, on the 18th ultimo, I have the honor

to transmit herewith, for your excellency's information, a brief review of the Mexican revolution, initiated by Mr. Venustiano Carranza in February, 1913, explaining its origin, development, and progress made to this day; and a copy of declarations made by Mr. Carranza, as the leader of the revolution and depository of the executive power of Mexico, which define the tendencies and program to be followed by the constitutionalist government, during its transitory period, indispensable for the holding of general elections in the Republic, wherefrom a definite constitutional government will emanate.

Mr. Venustiano Carranza, depository of the executive power of Mexico, whom I have the honor to represent in this country, has authorized me to say to your excellency that his public declarations of December 12, 1914, and June 11, 1915, bear the statement that the government he represents, in its capacity of a political entity, conscious of its international obligations and of its capability to comply with them, has afforded guaranties to the nationals, and has done likewise with regard to foreigners, and shall continue to see that their lives and property are respected, in accordance with the practices established by civilized nations and the treaties in force between Mexico and other countries.

That besides the above he will recognize and satisfy indemnities for damages caused by the revolution, which shall be settled in due time and in terms of justice.

I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to your excellency the assurance of my highest consideration.

E. Arredondo,
Confidential Agent.

His Excellency Robert Lansing,
Secretary of State of the United States of America,
Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure No. 4A.]

GEN. CARRANZA TO MR. ARREDONDO.

[Telegram.]

Vera Cruz, Mexico, *October 5, 1915.*

Eliseo Arredondo, Esq.,
Mexican Embassy, Washington, D. C.:

Your ciphered message dated yesterday. The general situation of the country is constantly improving, and preferent attention is being given to repairing railway lines in order to facilitate transportation of merchandise to place where they are lacking. It is untrue that the Zapatistas blew up a passenger train, as stated by you, and although several bands are harassing trains, these are well protected, and the persecution waged against will soon annihilate them. It is true that a minor officer killed a young lady, but he succeeded in escaping, but he is being pursued, and when arrested he will receive a severe punishment.

Carranza.

[Inclosure No. 4B.]

RÉSUMÉ OF THE MEXICAN CONSTITUTIONALIST REVOLUTION AND ITS PROGRESS.

The civil strife in Mexico, now nearing its end, which grew out of the arrest and subsequent death of Francisco I. Madero and Jose Maria Pino Suarez, President and Vice President, respectively, of the Republic of Mexico, and was a consequence of the usurpation of power by Gen. Victoriano Huerta, had its beginning on the 19th of February, 1913. On this date Mr. Venustiano Carranza, upon being apprised of the above-mentioned outrageous assault and of the infringement of the federal constitution, and acting in his capacity of governor of the State of Coahuila and in fealty to the oath he had taken upon entering into the performance of his high investiture to preserve and cause all others to observe the federal constitution and to guard its institutions, repudiated the aforesaid Gen. Huerta as President of Mexico and initiated that which has been named as "The revolution of the Constitutionalist Party."

Mr. Venustiano Carranza, obeying the provision of the federal constitution which his oath of office involved as governor of the State of Coahuila, raised the flag of legality against the usurpation of federal power, at the same time calling all public officers in the country to do their duty and inviting all commanders of troops to repudiate and oppose Gen. Huerta as President of the Republic; but in view of the fact that none of the secretaries in the cabinet of Mr. Madero, who by operation of law and according to their precedence were expected to punish the outrage committed against the constitution, responded to the call to duty, Mr. Carranza was constrained to assume the leadership of the restorating movement because it was his duty to do do as governor of the State of Coahuila and pursuant to the unanimous vote of the citizens who at that moment had rallied around him to defend the political constitution of the united Mexican States and to save its institutions.

Mr. Carranza is, therefore, in the light of the federal constitution of Mexico, the rightful successor of Francisco I. Madero in the exercise of the executive power, to the exclusion of any other public officer, because he was the only one who complied with his duty according to the fundamental charter of the Republic.

The nomination of Mr. Carranza as chief of the revolution took place in the hacienda de Guadalupe, State of Coahuila, where the well-known "Plan of Guadalupe" was framed and enacted on March 26, 1913, which was the rule of action to be observed and followed by the army which was then being organized with the sole purpose of opposing and overthrowing the power of Gen. Victoriano Huerta, and which was wisely named at that time as "constitutionalist army."

In accordance with this brief, concise, and well-defined plan of action, the sole object of which and its only duty were to restore the effectiveness of the constitution trampled upon by Huerta and his accomplices, a small group of patriots lead by Mr. Carranza and seconded afterwards by the State of Sonora only, started a disadvantageous struggle against the central power of Huerta, who had the decided support of the federal army and of the powerful elements of the cientifico and reactionary party.

After a revolution of a year and a half which disturbed the whole country and has shed so much blood and caused so great injury to the Mexican people, Mr. Carranza made his triumphant entry into the City of Mexico at the head of the restorating army on August 19, 1914, taking immediate possession of the executive authority of the Republic of Mexico, in accordance with the plan of Guadalupe, dated March 26, 1913.

As soon as Mr. Carranza took his seat in the national palace of the City of Mexico, he began the organization of the various departments of state with view to attending at once to all the services of public administration, and at the same time complying with a verbal promise he made to all the leaders who seconded the plan of Guadalupe when the constitutionalist army should occupy the City of Mexico. He called all the governors and leaders in command of troops to a meeting which was to take place on the 1st day of October, 1914, for the purpose of discussing and adopting the program or platform which the constitutionalist government should follow prior to elections; the reforms which should be carried into effect; the date on which elections should be held, and all other matters of general interest which the circumstances might require.

But Gen. Francisco Villa, who was then the commander of the northern division of the constitutionalist army, who had signed and sworn to support the plan of Guadalupe, induced and encouraged by a group of sordid and ambitious counselors, who had not been admitted by Mr. Carranza, and confirming his rebellious designs against the first chief, of which he had given evidence since the month of June of 1914, when he refused to obey the orders of his chief to go to the rescue of Gen. Panfilo Natera, who was attacking the city of Zacatecas, which was then occupied by Huerta's forces, made a reply to the call, stating that neither he nor any of the generals of his division would attend the meeting to be held on October 1 in Mexico, at the same time publishing a declaration repudiating the leadership of Mr. Carranza and alleging that he was not the man required by the circumstances to occupy the presidency of the Republic and insure the triumph of the revolution.

The convention was, therefore, held without the attendance of the northern division, among the other military commanders and governors of States; but as soon as the sessions were initiated, Mr. Carranza considered that Gen. Villa and the commanders of his division were obstinate in a futile struggle which would again stain Mexico's soil with the blood of its people and would be of disastrous consequences, and seeing with sadness that several other leaders were vacillating in the face of danger and the hardships of a new struggle, loyal to the principles of abnegation and patriotism of which he had given evidence, and guided only by the desire to avoid greater evils to his country, he appeared before the assembly on a certain day in the legislative palace of Mexico and astonished everybody by relinquishing before it the power with which he had been vested, promising to retire to private life and even to leave the country, stating that he would return the authority to those who had conferred it on him and hoped that they would know how to save the Republic from a new struggle growing out of Villa's rebellion and would carry into practice the reforms of an economic and social order which the people demanded and which had been the subject of the strife.

Mr. Carranza, divested of all command and as a simple citizen, returned to his home, leaving the convention in complete liberty to continue its sessions and to discuss and designate the person who should take his place.

The convention went on with its work, and, after brief deliberations concerning the resignation of Mr. Carranza, all those present unanimously decided to call him back and ask him to resume the duties of first chief of the constitutionalist army and to continue at the head of the executive power of the nation, inasmuch as he was the genuine representative ofthe revolution, the faithful interpreter of its tendencies and purposes. To that effect, a committee of five generals appointed by the convention called at the home of Mr. Carranza at a late hour of the night and a few minutes later carried him to the chamber of deputies, where the important convention was being held, where he was received amidst the applause of the attendants who acclaimed him as their chief and again invested him with the power of the nation; and Mr. Carranza, responding to the necessities of the country and his voice of his partisans, accepted the trust and once more protested that he would do his duty and would defend the principles and program of the revolution against the ambitions and malevolence of its enemies, to whom the rebellion of Villa should be added.

Mr. Carranza having again taken charge of the executive power of the nation and invested again with the character of first chief of the constitutionalist army, several army officers called upon him asking his permission to proceed north in order to confer with the commanders of the northern division headed by Gen. Villa, in an effort to procure an agreement with them and avoid the menacing conflict which everyone felt would be of serious consequences for the cause and the interests of Mexico. After several interviews in which Mr. Carranza constantly endeavored to dissuade the aforesaid generals from the futility of their intent, admonishing them against the antecedents, ignorance, and well-known traits of Villa, which could hardly inspire any confidence in his agreements and promises, permitted them to go to Aguascalientes, where they were to meet the others, but reserving to himself the authority on any decision adopted until he would know the result of the above-mentioned conferences.

The mere conversation and exchange of opinions and judgment among the aforesaid leaders, moved only by the desire to avoid the nearing conflict, was a sufficient pretext for Villa to give them the character of a convention, which began by simple conferences and ended by assuming the name of a sovereign convention, which dictated a new program for the revolution and completely disregarded the plan of Guadalupe.

It is well known that Gen. Villa immediately sent troops in large numbers to the city of Aguascalientes and by means of this manifestation of violence succeeded in having Gen. Eulalio Gutierrez appointed provisional president of Mexico for a term of 20 days, with the avowed purpose of eliminating Mr. Carranza from the position of first chief and of his trust as depository of the executive power which had been then ratified in his favor. It is also a well-known fact, within as well as without Mexico, that only a few days had to pass when Villa revolted also against Provisional President Gutierrez, the choice of the so-called convention, and accompanied by a body of

armed troops attacked him in his own home, forcing Gutierrez to flee from the capital to save his life.

Once the works of the so-called convention ended at Aguascalientes and having set in relief, as stated before, that the aim of Villa was no other than to assume power by assault and declare himself the dictator of Mexico, the various leaders and officers, who, deceived on the one hand and startled on the other by the precipitation of the occurrence and their lack of experience in political matters, had attended the Aguascalientes convention, returned to the side of the first chief and once more declared their willingness to defend the government of Mr. Carranza against the malevolence and ambitions of Villa and those who followed him.

It was at that time, October of last year, that the second struggle which Mr. Carranza had to face began; and it has been necessary to devote one whole year of hardships and sacrifice; to destroy thousands of lives and interests of the country to overpower the Villa faction, which at this time, already disorganized, without elements of support, followers, or cohesion, has been confined to the material occupation of the northern portion of the State of Chihuahua and a part of the State of Sonora.

In order to foster his ambitions, Gen. Villa sent Gen. Felipe Angeles to the State of Morelos to seek the allegiance of the Zapata faction in the new fight against Mr. Carranza, for which purpose he made Zapata all kinds of promises and succeeded in having a group of 26 Zapatista delegates attend the Aguascalientes convention, although they had no credentials of any kind or color to attend the conference, nor had ever been identified as revolutionaries; but this was of no avail, for the ends which Villa and Angeles pursued, whose ambition was to secure a majority in the convention, which would insure the success of their purpose.

The Zapata faction, which has never been an organized nucleus of resistance, and composed merely of bands of marauders numbering sometimes 100, 50, 20, 10, and even less men, never was nor has been in accord with the Villa faction except in their intention to fight Mr. Carranza; but these latter having been defeated by the forces under Gens. Gonzalez and Coss, have retired to their mountain hiding in the State of Morelos, and their activity is reduced to raids in the States of Mexico, Vera Cruz, and the Federal district, where they attack defenseless towns and passenger trains without any other object or finality than to rob and profit by the proceeds of their loot, all of whom are acting on their own personal initiative and are living in this manner outside of the pale of any authority or law.

From the above it appears that the constitutionalist party, headed by Mr. Carranza, initiated the revolution against Huerta in February, 1913, and organized and equipped successively in various States of the Republic an army of volunteers which fought the usurpation of Huerta, and finally threw him out of power, as hereinbefore stated; and has also fought and completely defeated the factions of Villa and Zapata, who had revolted against the authority of the first chief.

At the present time Mr. Carranza controls 24 States of the 27 which make up the Republic, and the territories of Tepic and Quintana Roo and the Federal district, and has established in each of them a local government which attends the various branches of public service, as hereinafter stated, giving the names of the governors ruling the States:

In Sinaloa the governor is Engineer Manuel Rodriguez Gutierrez; in Nuevo Leon, Licentiate Pablo de la Garza; in Coahuila, Licentiate Gustavo Espinosa Mireles; in Tamaulipas, Gen. Luis Caballero; in Durango, Gen. Domingo Arrieta; in Zacatecas, Gen. Romulo Figueroa; in Aguascalientes, Gen. Martin Triana; in San Luis Potosi, Gen. Gabriel Gavira; in Guanajuato, Dr. Jose Suirob; in Queretaro, Gen. Gederico Montes; in Michoacan, Gen. Alfredo Elizondo; in Jalisco, Licentiate Manuel Aguierre Berlanga; in Colima, Gen. Juan Jose Rios; in Hidalgo, Gen. Nicolas Flore; in the Federal district, Gen. Ceasar Lopez de Lara; in Puebla, Col. Dr. Luis G. Cervantes; in Tlaxcala, Lieut. Col. Porfirio del Castillo; in Veracruz, Gen. Candido Aguilar; in Oaxaca, Gen. Jesus Agustin Castro; in Guerrero, Maj. Simon Diaz; in Yucatan, Gen. Salvador Alvarado; in Campeche, Gen. Joaquin Mucel; in Tabasco, Gen. Francisco Jose Mugica; in Chiapas, Gen. Blas Corral; in Quintana Roo, Col. Carlos Plank; in Tepic, Gen. Ernesto Damy; and in Mexico, Gen. Pascual Morales y Molina.

All of the above leaders of the constitutionalist army and governors who have been just appointed recognize the first chieftainship of Mr. Carranza and his authority as the depository of the executive power of the nation, as they have recently stated it when replying to the note addressed to them by the Secretary of State of the United States and the American diplomatic representatives, tendering their good offices as mediators and inviting them to a conference for the purpose of solving in this manner the struggle in Mexico.

From the above-mentioned reply it is seen that, differing from the leaders of the Villa and Zapata factions, who made individual replies to the aforesaid note according to their own judgment, all the Constitutionalist leaders referred their replies to Mr. Carranza, thus recognizing his character of chief of all of them and reiterating their allegiance to him. This example of discipline, cohesion, and solidarity of the Constitutionalist Party clearly manifests that it is not only a compact and organized group of men with predetermined tendencies but a real government from the point of view of international law, which has been able to demonstrate its ability to constitute itself and to gain the will and respect of the Mexican people.

The various executive departments are already installed in the City of Mexico, and in a short time Mr. Carranza will definitely transfer his offices to the capital of Mexico, in order to attend with more dispatch and efficiency to the exigencies of public administration.

The department of justice has already organized local courts and courts of first instance in the Federal District and Territories, and is now ready to carry into effect the agreed project for the organization of all the courts in the Republic and for the designation of such authorities as are within its province to appoint and which are not elective by popular vote.

In order to insure the regular operation of the government in general and those of every State, as well as to afford the greater possible guaranties to nationals and foreigners, the constitutionalist government has at its disposal an army of 150,000 men, who will support, as the circumstances may demand, the established government, and which is conveniently distributed throughout the country in five divisions or army corps, respectively named divisions of the

northeast, northwest, center, south, and east, and respectively commanded by Gens. Jacinto Treviño, Alvaro Obregon, Salvador Albarado, and Pablo Gonzalez.

The declarations issued to the nation on December 14, 1914, and June 11 of the present year, clearly define the political program of the provisional constitutionalist government, which will be continued until the conditions of the country may permit the holding of general elections and the installation of a general congress. When the latter is established, Mr. Carranza will appear before it and render an account of the use he may have made of the extraordinary authority with which he is invested, as well as of the political, economic, and social reforms decreed by him during the revolutionary period, to the end that the above-mentioned reforms may be given the character of constitutional provisions, or may be repealed, amended, or supplemented by the aforesaid high assembly.

In conclusion, Mr. Carranza has authorized all of the division generals to extend amnesty to their opponents, and to the present date thousands of soldiers, officers, and civilians have availed themselves of this prerogative, and a decree is now in course of preparation in order that Mexicans residing abroad, whose antecedents or the offenses they have committed in Mexico may not constitute a menace to public order and the peace needed for the reconstruction of the country, may return to their homes to look after their interests and follow their usual occupations. This, without doubt, will contribute to a geneıal improvement of Mexico and to the resumption of all activities in commerce, industry, and agriculture, thus cooperating to the welfare and prosperity of Mexico.

In regard to soldiers of the defeated factions who are still in a hostile attitude toward the constitutionalist government, all of them, or a greater majority, are awaiting the decision regarding the recognition of the Mexican government in order to depose their arms; and if they have not done this to this day it is due to the especial psychology of all irregular armies which do not grasp the true situation, and, exaggerating what they consider their self-pride and military dignity, they leave to time the preparation of a better opportunity to depose their arms without blemish to their erroneous idea of honor.

Summing up the conditions hereinbefore stated with the endurance of the constitutionalist army during the struggles, with its good disposition to organize a local government, as has been done in each State under its control, and with the efficiency with which it has been able to afford safety to life and property of nationals and foreigners alike during the war, it is evident that Mr. Carranza's government constitutes a real entity and possesses a political existence of its own, willing to comply with the duties of international life, and has the ability to conform to them.

E. Arredondo,
Confidential Agent of the Constitutionalist Government of Mexico.

Washington, D. C., *October 7, 1915.*

[Inclosure No. 4C.]

PLAN OF GUADALUPE.

PLAN OF GUADALUPE SIGNED BY 64 OFFICERS OF THE TROOPS OF THE STATE OF COAHUILA ON THE 26TH DAY OF MARCH, 1913.

DECLARATION TO THE NATION.

Whereas Gen. Victoriano Huerta, to whom Francisco I. Madero, constitutional President of Mexico, intrusted the defense of the institutions and the legality of his government, on uniting with the rebel enemies in arms opposing the same government, to restore the former dictatorship, committed the crime of treason to reach power, by arresting the President and Vice President, as well as the members of the cabinet, forcing them under menace to resign their posts, as shown by messages addressed by the same Gen. Huerta to governors of the States, advising them that he had the chief executives of the Republic and the cabinet as his prisoners; and

Whereas the legislative and judicial powers have recognized and protected Gen. Huerta and his illegal and antipatriotic proceedings, contrary to constitutional laws and precepts; and

Whereas several governors of States of the Republic have recognized the illegitimate government, imposed by that part of the army which consummated the treason, headed by the aforesaid Gen. Huerta, notwithstanding that the sovereignty of those very States, whose governors should have been the first to repudiate Huerta, had been violated, we, the undersigned, chiefs and officers commanding the constitutionalist forces, have agreed upon, and shall sustain with arms, the following:

PLAN.

1. Gen. Victoriano Huerta is hereby repudiated as President of the Republic.
2. The legislative and judicial powers of the federation are also hereby disowned.
3. The governors of the States who still recognize the federal powers of the present administration, shall be repudiated 30 days after the publication of this plan.
4. For the purpose of organizing the army, which is to see that our aims are carried out, we name Venustiano Carranza, now governor of the State of Coahuila, as first chief of the army, which is to be called constitutionalist army.
5. Upon the occupation of the city of Mexico by the constitutionalist army, the executive power shall be vested in Venustiano Carranza, its first chief, or in the person who may substitute him in command.
6. The provisional trustee of the executive power of the Republic shall convene general elections as soon as peace may have been restored and will surrender power to the citizen who may have been elected.

The citizen who may act as first chief of the constitutionalist army in the States whose government might have recognized that of Huerta, shall take charge of the provisional government and shall convene local elections, after the citizens elected to discharge the high powers of the federation may have entered into the performance of their duties, as provided in the foregoing bases.

[Inclosure No. 4D.]

DECREE OF GEN. CARRANZA.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

I, Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the constitutionalist army and depository of the executive power of the Republic of Mexico, taking into consideration—

That on the arrest of the President and Vice President, on the 19th of February, 1913, by ex-Gen. Victoriano Huerta, and the usurpation of public power by the latter, on the 20th of the same month, and immediately thereafter depriving the above-mentioned public officers of their lives, the constitutional order of the Republic was interrupted and thus the country was deprived of a lawful government;

That the undersigned, in his capacity as constitutional governor of the State of Coahuila, had solemnly taken the oath to observe and cause the general constitution to be observed, and that, complying with this duty and of the above oath, he was inevitably obliged to rise in arms to oppose the usurpation of Huerta, and to restore constitutional order in the Republic of Mexico;

That this duty, furthermore, was imposed upon him in a precise and express manner by a decree of the legislature of the State of Coahuila, by which he was categorically directed to repudiate the government of the usurper Huerta and to oppose it by the force of arms until it would be completely overthrown;

That, in view of the occurrence, the undersigned called all patriotic Mexicans to arms, and with the first ones who followed him he framed the plan of Guadalupe, on March 26, 1913, which has served to this day as the banner and by-law of the constitutionalist revolution;

That, from the military groups which were formed to oppose Huerta's usurpation, the divisions of the northwest, northeast, east, center, and south, operated under the leadership of the first chieftainship, perfect harmony existing between this and the former, and complete coordination in the means of action to accomplish the desired purpose; though the same did not occur with the northern division, which, under the command of Gen. Francisco Villa, showed from the beginning private tendencies, and finally severed its connections with the headquarters of the constitutionalist revolution, acting according to its own initiative, to such extent that the first chief does not know to this day, in a great measure, the means by which the above-mentioned general has secured funds and sustained the campaign, the amount of such funds and the use he may have made of them;

That, upon the arrival at the City of Mexico of the victorious revolutionary army, it endeavored to properly organize the provisional government, and was getting ready besides, to meet the demands of public opinion, by a satisfactory solution of the imperative exigencies of social reform needed by the people, when it was confronted with the difficulties which the reaction had been preparing in the bosom of the northern division, in order to frustrate the triumphs reached by the efforts of the constitutionalist army;

That the first chieftainship, anxious to organize the provisional government in accordance with the ideas and tendencies of the men who, with arms in hand, made the constitutionalist revolution, and who, therefore, were intimately cognizant of the ideals which were

pursued, called a general convention to be held in the City of Mexico, composed of generals, governors, and officers in command of troops, to the end that all of them together should decide on a program of government, indicate in a general way such reforms as seemed indispensable for the accomplishment of the social and political redemption of the nation, and would establish the form and time when constitutional order should be restored;

That this purpose had soon to be deferred, because the generals, governors, and officers who attended the military convention in the City of Mexico considered it advisable that there should be representatives at all the meetings of the elements which had taken part in the fight against the usurpation of Huerta, as some of them had abstained from attending, giving as a pretext a lack of guaranties and because of the rebellion which Francisco Villa had already started against the chief's office, and on this account they expressed their desire to be transferred to Aguascalientes, the place they considered more appropriate and having the conditions of neutrality sought by the military convention for the prosecution of their work;

That the members of the convention adopted this determination after they had reiterated to the undersigned their confirmation of his functions as first chief of the constitutionalist revolution and depository of the executive power of the Republic, which investiture he had then relinquished formally, in order to show that he was not animated by undue sentiments of personal ambition, but that, in view of existing difficulties, his cherished aim was that revolutionary action should not be divided, and thus frustrate the fruits of the victorious revolution;

That this first chieftainship made no opposition to the transfer of the military convention to the city of Aguascalientes, although it was intimately persuaded that, far from obtaining the conciliation sought, the separation between the commander of the northern division and the constitutionalist army would become still deeper, because the first chief did not wish to make the impression that he had the deliberate intention of excluding the northern division from the discussion upon matters of the greatest importance; also because he did [not ?] wish to appear as refusing that a last effort toward conciliation should be made, and because he believed that it was imperative for the good of the revolution that the true motives of Gen. Villa should be disclosed in an evident manner before national conscience, relieving from error those who in good faith believed in the sincerity and patriotism of Gen. Villa and the group of men who surrounded him;

That so soon as the works of the Aguascalientes convention were initiated the machinations of the Villista agents were laid bare, they having performed the principal rôle at the convention, and the system of threats was felt and unbridled pressure was put to practice against those who, on account of their sense of honor and spirit of independence, opposed the impositions of the commander of the northern division to direct the works of the convention to suit his pleasure;

That, on the other hand, many of the chiefs who attended the Aguascalientes convention did not grasp the importance and true mission of the convention, and as they were men of little or no experience in political matters, their good faith was profited by the malicious agents of Villa, and dragged them to second inadvertently the

maneuvering of the northern division, without regard to the cause of the people or even outlining the general thought of the revolution and the program of the preconstitutional government, which was generally desired;

That for the purpose of avoiding a controversy of a purely personal character and the further shedding of blood, the first chieftainship made every possible effort to reach a conciliation, offering to withdraw from power provided a government capable of carrying into effect the social and political reforms demanded by the country should be established. But having failed to satisfy the thirst for power of the northern division, notwithstanding the successive concessions made by the first chieftainship, and in view of the well-defined attitude of a great number of constitutionalist leaders who, repudiating the resolutions adopted by the Aguascalientes convention, ratified their allegiance to the plan of Guadalupe, this first chieftainship was constrained to accept the challenge to fight the reaction lead at present by Gen. Francisco Villa;

That the class of the elements on which Gen. Villa is banking, which are the same that prevented President Madero from directing his policy, are, therefore, politically responsible, in a radical sense, for his downfall. On the other hand, the express declarations made on several occasions by the commander of the northern division advocating the establishment of constitutional order before the social and political reforms demanded by the country take place, clearly demonstrate that the insubordination of Gen. Villa is of a strictly reactionary character and contrary to constitutionalist activities, and has for a purpose to frustrate the complete success of the revolution, preventing the establishment of a preconstitutional government intrusted with the enactment and enforcement of the reforms which have been the subject of the struggle which has been raging for the last four years;

That, therefore, it is a duty in behalf of the revolution and the fatherland to continue the revolution started in 1913, pursuing the fight against the new enemies of the liberty of the Mexican people;

That it being imperative, therefore, that the interruption of constitutional order should subsist during this new period of the struggle, the plan of Guadalupe should therefore continue to be in force, as it has been the guidance and banner of it, until the enemy may have been overpowered completely in order that the constitution may be restored;

That it having been impossible to carry into effect the purposes for which the military convention of October, 1914, was convened, and the purpose of the new fight being, on the part of the reactionary troops commanded by Gen. Villa, to prevent the realization of revolutionary reforms demanded by the Mexican people, the first chief of the revolution is obliged to procure, that at the earliest possible moment, there should be put into effect all the laws covering the political and economic reforms which the country requires, enacting the same during the struggle that is to be commenced;

That, therefore, and it being necessary for the plan of Guadalupe to remain in force in its essential part, it is imperative that the Mexican people and the constitutionalist army should clearly know the military ends which are being pursued in the present fight, which are the annihilation of the reaction creeping up with Gen. Villa at

the head, and the establishment of the political and social principles which inspire this first chieftainship, which are the ideals for which the Mexican people have been fighting during the last four years.

That, therefore, and in accordance with the most general sentiments among the leaders of the constitutionalist army, the governors of the States and of other collaborators of the revolution, and interpreting the needs of the Mexican people, I, Venustiano Carranza, have seen fit to decree the following:

Article 1. The plan of Guadalupe of March 26, 1913, shall subsist until the complete triumph of the revolution, and, therefore, Citizen Venustiano Carranza shall continue in his post as first chief of the constitutionalist revolution and as depository of the executive power of the nation, until the enemy is overpowered and peace is restored.

Article 2. The first chief of the revolution and depository of the executive power of the Republic, shall enact and enforce, during the struggle, all the laws, provisions, and measures tending to meet the economic, social, and political needs of the country, carrying into effect the reforms which public opinion demands as indispensable for the establishment of a régime which will guarantee the equality of Mexicans among themselves, agrarian laws favoring the creation of small landowners, the suppression of latifundia or large landholders, and the restoration to townships of the lands illegally taken from them; fiscal laws tending to establish an equitable system of taxation on real estate; laws tending to improve the condition of the rural laborer, the workingman, the miner, and, in general, of the working classes; the establishment of municipal freedom as a constitutional institution; bases for a new system of organization of the army; amendments of the election laws in order to insure the effectiveness of suffrage; organization of an independent judicial power, in the federation as well as in the States; revision of the laws relative to marriage and the civil status of persons; provisions guaranteeing the strict observance of the laws of reform; revision of the civil, penal, and commercial codes; amendment of judicial procedure, for the purpose of expediting and causing the effectiveness of the administration of justice; revision of laws relative to the exploitation of mines, petroleum, water rights, forests, and other natural resources of the country, in order to destroy the monopolies created by the old régime and to prevent the formation of new ones; political reforms which will insure the absolute observance of the constitution of Mexico, and, in general, all the other laws which may be deemed necessary to insure for all the inhabitants of the country the effectiveness and full enjoyment of their rights, and their equality before the laws.

Article 3. In order to continue the struggle and to carry into effect the reforms referred to in the preceding article, the chief of the revolution is hereby expressly authorized to convene and organize the constitutionalist army and direct the operations of the campaign; to appoint the governors and military commanders of the States and to remove them freely; to effect the expropriations on account of public utility which may be necessary for the distributions of lands, founding of townships, and other public services; to negotiate loans and issue obligation against the national treasury, indicating the property which shall guarantee them; to appoint and remove freely federal employees of the civil administration and of the States and to fix the powers of each of them; to make, either directly or through the

chiefs he may appoint, requisitions for lands, buildings, arms, horses, vehicles, provisions, and other elements of war; and to create decorations and decree recompenses for services rendered to the revolution.

ARTICLE 4. Upon the success of the revolution, when the supreme chieftainship may be established in the city of Mexico and after the elections for municipal councils in the majority of the States of the Republic, the first chief of the revolution, as depository of the executive power, shall issue the call for election of congressmen, fixing in the calls the dates and terms in which the elections shall be held.

ARTICLE 5. Once the federal congress has been installed, the chief of the revolution shall render an account before it of the use he may have made of the powers with which he is vested hereby, and he shall especially submit the reforms made and put into effect during the struggle, in order that congress may ratify them, amend them, or supplement them, and to the end that those which it may see fit may be raised to the rank of constitutional precepts, before the reestablishment of constitutional order.

ARTICLE 6. The federal congress shall convene the people to the election of president of the Republic, and as soon as this takes place the first chief of the revolution shall deliver to the president elect the executive power of the nation.

ARTICLE 7. In case of absolute default of the present chief of the revolution and in the meantime the generals and governors proceed to the election of the person who is to take his place, the chief office shall be temporarily filled by the commander of the army corps at the place where the revolutionary government may be the time the default of the first chief occurs.

V. CARRANZA.
ADOLFO DE LA HUERTA,
Chief Clerk of the Department of the Interior.

CONSTITUTION AND REFORMS,
Vera Cruz, December 12, 1914.

[Inclosure No. 4E.]

DECLARATION TO THE NATION.

DECLARATION TO THE NATION BY THE FIRST CHIEF OF THE CONSTITUTIONALIST GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO AND DEPOSITORY OF THE EXECUTIVE POWER OF THE REPUBLIC.

At last, after five years of struggle brought about by the long régime of oppression, which kept alive and aggravated the economic and social unbalanced conditions of the colonial era, the revolution is about to end, overpowering the enemy and establishing definitely the economic reforms and political reforms, which constitute its purpose and which are the only ones which can insure the peace emanating from the welfare of the majority, from equality before the law and from justice.

The revolution has had the instinctive and generous sympathy of free countries, precisely because its aim has not been the mere

change of personnel of the administration, but the complete substitution of a régime of oppression by a régime of freedom. The struggle has been a long one because the impatience of the revolutionaries to attain victory in 1911 gave room to the compromise with the elements of the old régime at Ciudad, Jaurez. From that moment, those elements accepted so easily and kindly, began their work of undermining within the revolutionary midst itself the prestige and authority of the men who a short time later were elevated to power by the free vote of the people. President Madero found himself in the impossibility of realizing the reforms demanded by the people; first, because within his own government almost the whole personnel of the old régime had remained, and, second, because he had to devote his whole time to fight that same old régime which had successfully risen in arms with Reyes, Orozco and Feliz Diaz, and which fomented at the same time that it vitiated the rebellion of Zapata. The reaction having been unable, in spite of the above, to suppress the reform tendencies of the new régime, it decided that the federal army should betray the legitimate government of the Republic. Treason was carried into effect by Gen. Huerta under the pretext of saving the City of Mexico from the horrors of war, and with the cooperation of a group of foreigners favored by the old régime and who surrounded Henry Lane Wilson, the President and Vice President were assassinated and due to the complicity or weakness of he other powers, the nation was left without a constitutional representative. Then I, as governor of the State of Coahuila, and in obedience to the constitutional provisions, articles 121 and 128 of our fundamental charter, assumed the representation of the republic in the terms in which the constitution itself vests me with this right, and supported by the people which rose in arms to regain its liberty. In fact, the above-mentioned articles provide the following:

> Every public officer, without exception, prior to his taking possession of his charge, shall render an oath that he will sustain the constitution and the laws emanating therefrom. This constitution shall not fail in force or vigor, even though on account of rebellion its observance may be interrupted. In the case that pursuant to a public disturbance a government contrary to the principles sanctioned by the constitution may be established, as soon as the people regains its freedom, its observance shall be reestablished, and, according to it and to the laws which by virtue of it may have been enacted, those who may have figured in the government emanated from the rebellion shall be tried as well as those who may have cooperated in the movement.

After overpowering the rebellion and usurpation of Huerta, and before the constitutionalist army reached the City of Mexico, the reactionaries, faithful to their old procedure, began to mingle in our ranks and to corrupt those who ought to have given their support to this government, determining as a result the repudiation of it by Gen. Villa and the formation of factions whose chiefs felt encouraged by the presence of foreign representatives who were with them.

When our forces left the City of Mexico, pursuant to a military and political plan, it was thought that the constitutionalist government had lost the support of the people and with it its prestige and force, and that it would follow the course of previous trespassers of public power, but the apparent victory of the reaction headed by Francisco Villa was still more ephemeral than the one obtained by the usurpation of Gen. Huerta, and to-day, after the greatest and most definite victories militarily obtained by the army of the people in various

parts of the country, I can say to my countrymen that the constitutionalist government has control of over seven-eighths of the national territory; that it is organizing public administration in 20 out of 27 States of the Republic and in more than half of the other 7 States; that it controls all the maritime ports on the Gulf and on the Pacific Ocean, with the exception of Guaymas, and all the ports of entry on the northern and southern frontiers, with the exception of Piedras Negras, Ciudad Juarez, and Nogales; that more than thirteen million of the fifteen which represent the population of the country—that is to say, nine-tenths of the total population of the Republic—are governed by the administration I preside; that day after day the factions are being routed and dispersed, their offensive action being limited at present to acts of brigandage, and that within a short time the occupation of the City of Mexico will contribute to make the action of the constitutionalist government more harmonious and efficient in all the territory of the Republic. Therefore, our country is nearing the end of its revolution and the consolidation of a definite peace, based on conditions of welfare and justice.

In the midst of the greatest difficulties and within that which may be humanely possible, the constitutionalist government has complied with its duties and has extenuated in behalf of the people the hardships of war, either forbidding the exportation of articles of prime necessity or adopting measures of practical effect to facilitate the acquisition of the same for the benefit of the poor; it has afforded guaranties and given protection to the inhabitants within the territory controlled by the constitutionalist forces, all of whom live a life of normal activity; it has prevented and punished the faults and abuses growing out of the state of social disturbance, which, lamentable as they may be, neither because of their number nor their importance, can be considered as characteristic feature of a governmental régime. I am the first one to deplore the privations which the Mexican people have had to suffer as a result of the war, which constitute one of the many sacrifices the people have to pass through in order to conquer their liberties; but I am decided to employ all the means which may be at the reach of the government to comply with the work of humanity demanded by the circumstances. Fortunately, the recent victories over the factions enlarge the sphere of action of the constitutionalist government and facilitate the compliance of the duties which all Governments have with regard to their constituents to afford guaranties to the inhabitants and to procure the welfare of the masses.

With regard to our foreign relations, notwithstanding that one of my first acts was to address a note by telegraph to the State Department of the United States of America apprising it of my capacity in front of the rebellion and the usurpation, one of the difficulties which has retarded our labors has been the lack of understanding between the government I have the honor to represent and the Governments of other nations, especially that of the United States.

The great interests of the old régime have created a real system of falsehoods and slander against this government, spreading them day after day through the channel of the powerful journals of the American "cientifico" press, which reach the ear of the press of the world, with the object of deforming before the opinion of other nations the procedure and the tendencies of the Mexican revolution; the same

interests have used their influence to have false reports rendered to the Governments of other countries, and especially so with regard to the United States, whenever they have endeavored to form judgment concerning the Mexican situation. The constitutionalist government has been deprived of the facilities to make any rectifications against such reports, because it has been denied the opportunity and the means incidental to diplomatic relations between one country and another.

We feel that we are at the present time in condition to overcome this last difficulty, because the constitutionalist government is now in fact in definite possession of the sovereignty of the country; and the legitimate army of sovereignty is the essential condition to be borne in mind when deciding upon the recognition of a government, if as we expect it and desire it in behalf of the Mexican people and of the foreign residents of this country, the governments of other nations recognize the constitutionalist government, this act of justice will afford it an efficient moral assistance, not only to strengthen the friendly relations which Mexico has always maintained with those nations and be able to discuss their common affairs conciliating their mutual interests, but also to secure a more speedy consolidation of peace to establish a constructive constitutional government, supported by the reforms and the program of the revolution, whose aims are the greater good of the greater number.

I am, therefore, of the opinion that the time has come to call the attention of the warring factions which are still engaged in armed opposition against the constitutionalist government, to the futility of their attitude, because of the recent and definite victories gained by our army, as well as because of the conviction they must have of our sincerity and capability to carry into realization the ideals of the revolution. Therefore, I appeal to those factions to submit to the constitutionalist government in order to expedite the reestablishment of peace and to consumate the work of the revolution. With a view to realizing the above-mentioned purposes, I have deemed proper to inform the nation upon the political conduct to be observed by the constitutionalist government, in the performance of the program of social reform contained in the decree of December 12, 1914.

First. The constitutionalist government shall afford to foreigners residing in Mexico all the guaranties to which they are entitled according to our laws, and shall amply protect their lives, their freedom, and the enjoyment of their rights of property, allowing them indemnities for the damages which the revolution may have caused to them, in so far as such indemnities may be just and which are to be determined by a procedure to be established later. The government shall also assume the responsibility of legitimate financial obligations.

Second. The first concern of the constitutionalist government shall be to reestablish peace within the province of law and order, to the end that all the inhabitants of Mexico, both native and foreign, shall equally enjoy the benefits of true justice and be interested in cooperating to the support of the government emanating from the revolution. The commission of crimes of the common order shall be punished. In due time an amnesty shall be enacted in keeping with the necessities of the country and the situation, which in

no way shall exempt those under it of the civil responsibilities they may have incurred.

Third. The constitutionalist laws of Mexico, known under the name of laws of reform, which establish the separation of the church and the state and which guarantee the individual right of worship in accordance with his own conscience and without offending public order, shall be strictly observed; therefore, no one shall suffer in his life, freedom, and property because of his religious beliefs. Temples shall continue to be the property of the nation according to laws in force, and the constitutionalist government shall again cede for the purposes of worship those which may be necessary.

Fourth. There shall be no confiscation in connection with the settlement of the agrarian question. This problem shall be solved by an equitable distribution of the lands still owned by the government; by the recovery of those lots which may have been illegally taken from individuals or communities; by the purchase and expropriation of large tracts of land, if necessary; by all other means of acquisition permitted by the laws of the country. The constitution of Mexico forbids privileges, and therefore all kinds of properties, regardless of who the owners may be, whether operated or not, shall in the future be subject to the proportional payment of a tax in accordance with a just and equitable valuation.

Fifth. All property legitimately acquired from individuals or legal governments, and which may not constitute a privilege or a monopoly, shall be respected.

Sixth. The peace and safety of a nation depends from the clear understanding of citizenship. Therefore, the government shall take pains in developing public education, causing it to spread throughout the whole country, and to this end it shall utilize all cooperation rendered in good faith, permitting the establishment of private schools subject to our laws.

Seventh. In order to establish the constitutional government, the government by me presided shall observe and comply with the provisions of articles 4, 5, and 6 of the decree of December 12, 1914, which reads as follows:

> Article 4. Immediately upon the success of the revolution and the reestablishment of the first chieftainship in the City of Mexico, and after the elections for municipal councils in the majority of the States of the Republic, the first chief of the revolution, as the depository of the executive power of the nation, shall convene the people to elections for members of the federal congress, fixing in the call the dates and terms in which such elections shall take place.
>
> Article 5. Immediately after the installation of the federal congress the first chief of the revolution shall render an account before it of the use he may have made of the powers with which he is hereby invested, and he shall especially submit to it the reforms which may have been enacted and made effective during the struggle, to the end that congress may ratify them or amend them or complete them, and in order that it may give the vigor of constitutional provisions to those which ought to have such character prior to the establishment of constitutional order.
>
> Article 6. The federal congress shall convene the people to the election of president of the Republic, and as soon this takes place the first chief of the revolution shall deliver to the president elect the executive power of the nation.

V. CARRANZA,
First Chief of the Constitutionalist Army and depository of the Executive Power of the Republic of Mexico.

CONSTITUTION AND REFORMS,
Vera Cruz, June 11, 1915.

[Inclosure No. 4F.]

GEN. CARRANZA TO MR. ARREDONDO.

[Telegram.]

VERA CRUZ, *October 6.*

ELISEO ARREDONDO, Esq.,
Mexican Embassy, Washington, D. C.

I have taken note of your cipher message dated yesterday. Please deny that there are any disturbances in the frontier of Chiapas against Guatemala and that the Government under my direction is in some way favoring revolution in above-mentioned country.

A part of the State of Oaxaca is not under our control but the Constitutionalist Government controls the rest of the State wherein the important Isthmian Railway is situated and very soon the whole State will be under the power of our forces.

It is so far impossible to state just when our forces will control the Yaqui Valley, Sonora, but there are no important reactionary nucleuses to suppress and within a short time there will be only a few bands of marauders left.

The amnesty law will be issued in favor of those who are not charged with the commission of civil crimes while in position of official responsibility. It will be issued as soon as the Government may have terminated the campaign and consolidated itself (after recognition) for if all the political refugees now expatriated and their accomplices of the usurpation (by Huerta) are allowed to come back at once, they will only come here to continue their work of conspiracy and to bring about greater evils than those which the country already has suffered on their account.

V. CARRANZA.

[Inclosure No. 5.]

SECRETARY OF WAR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 10, 1916.

The Secretary of War presents his compliments to the honorable the Secretary of State, and incloses, in accordance with the verbal request made this date by the chief, division of Mexican affairs, additional copies of report No. 146 of general conditions along the Mexican border based on weekly reports of January 1, 1916, from the local military commanding officers, and upon information received from all other sources, and Report No. 148 of similar conditions for the week ending January 15, 1916.

[Inclosure No. 5A.]

WEEKLY REPORT OF GENERAL CONDITIONS.

Weekly report of general conditions along the Mexican border, based on weekly reports of January 1, 1916, from the local military commanding officers and upon information received from all sources to date.

BROWNSVILLE.

The commanding officer, Brownsville Cavalry patrol district, reports: "Nothing of importance to report."

The commanding officer, Brownsville subdistrict, reports as follows: "Absolute quiet prevailed during the week ending December 31, 1915. A number of families who went over into Mexico with their furniture, stock, and other belongings, during the height of the bandit trouble, have returned to this side with their belongings. From all appearances, conditions have assumed their normal state along the border."

HARLINGEN.

The commanding officer, subdistrict of Harlingen, reports: "Nothing of special interest to report. The Mexicans who attempted to cross the river near Los Indios the last week were not bandits, and their attempt has no significance."

Los Indios.—"Two Mexicans were apprehended December 26 while attempting to cross the Rio Grande from Mexico below San Benito pump. Two other Mexicans were apprehended December 27, one while attempting to cross near the Harlingen pump, the other near San Benito pump. The above was made the subject of a special report dated the 28th instant."

Mercedes Headgate.—"The past week has been very quiet. There is nothing further to report."

Landrum's Ranch, La Paloma.—"Nothing extraordinary has happened in this sector during the period."

San Pedro Ranch, San Bonito.—"No unusual occurrences."

Santa Maria.—"All quiet."

The commanding officer, Twenty-sixth Infantry, Harlingen, reports: "Quiet. Conditions improving."

Mercedes.—"Conditions have remained normal during the week."

Mission.—Following from commanding officer, Twenty-eighth Infantry: "Conditions remained normal throughout the week ending January 1. Two families emigrated to Mexico during the week and 74 families of 134 persons immigrated to the United States during the same period."

The commanding officer, cavalry camp at Mission, reports: "Conditions have continued normal during the past week."

FORT RINGGOLD, RIO GRANDE.

"Conditions have remained normal during the past week."

LAREDO.

The commanding general, Second Brigade, reports: "Conditions in this district have remained quiet during the week."

The commanding officer, Fort McIntosh, reports: "Everything has remained quiet in this district during the past week."

EAGLE PASS.

The commanding officer, Seventeenth Infantry, reports: "Nothing has occurred to report on border conditions during the week."

The commanding officer, detachment Fourteenth Cavalry, Eagle Pass, reports: "Conditions remain normal in this district."

DEL RIO.

"Nothing of importance to report."

WESTERN TEXAS CAVALRY PATROL DISTRICT.

MARFA.

"Nothing of importance to report. Quiet has maintained throughout the district. The garrison of the de facto Mexican government at Ojinaga consists of about 300 men; 150 of whom are regulars and the remainder apparently local volunteers."

EIGHTH BRIGADE.

FORT BLISS, EL PASO.

The following report, dated January 2, 1916, was received from the commanding general, Eighth Brigade: "The garrison of Juarez having been transferred to Carranzista control, there were 800 Mexican (Carranza) soldiers sent there from Chihuahua

on the 29th ultimo. About 2,300 Carranza soldiers with baggage and camp followers were disembarked at Pelca on the 30th ultimo and marched into Juarez from that point without incident. Gen. Obregon left El Paso on the 1st instant for Chihuahua. The whereabouts of Gen. Villa continues to be unknown. Conditions in this vicinity seem to be peaceful and it is reported that most of the ex-Villa troops have been mustered out, paid off, and returned to their homes."

COLUMBUS.

"The Villista forces at Palomas, Mexico, and the Border Gate have transferred their allegiance to the Carranza Government."

HACHITA.

"Border conditions in this patrol district for week ending January 1, 1916, have remained normal."

DOUGLAS.

The following report, dated January 2, 1916, was received from the commanding officer, Second Cavalry Brigade:

"*Military situation.*—In and about Agua Prieta there have been no military movements of any kind. Peace reigns to the south and southeast and no reports of Villistas have been received during the past week."

"*Business outlook.*—Train service between Douglas and Nacozari was resumed on Saturday, January 1. The large bridges that were burned have been temporarily repaired and it is expected that the regular traffic will be resumed within four or five days. Practically all of the mining people who were compelled to leave Sonora on account of the Villa campaign have returned to their mines, the Nacozari Railroad granting them free transportation south.

"It is expected that the whole State of Sonora will be normal within a week or 10 days.

"With the opening of the railroad there were heavy shipments of concentrates to the Copper Queen Smelter in Douglas. The Montezuma Mining Co. have their mines and mill now in operation."

The commanding officer, Seventh Cavalry, reports: "Conditions have remained normal in this vicinity during the week."

NACO.

The following report, dated January 1, was received from the commanding officer of this station: "Nothing of importance has occurred in this vicinity during the week. The mines and furnaces of the Cananea Consolidated Copper Co. are in full operation. The Southern Pacific de Mexico Railroad is operating on both the Cananea and Nogales branches. On December 30, 1915, Gen. Gavira, with his brigade, was transported by way of the El Paso & Southwestern Railroad from Naco, Sonora, to Palayas, N. Mex., en route to Juarez. Each of the two sections of the train carrying these Mexican troops was accompanied by one commissioned officer and eight men of my command."

[Inclosure 5B.]

WEEKLY REPORT OF CONDITIONS ON MEXICAN BORDER.

Weekly report of general conditions along the Mexican border, based on weekly reports of January 15, 1916, from the local military commanding officers and upon information received from all sources to date:

BROWNSVILLE.

The commanding officer, Brownsville Cavalry patrol district, reports as follows: "About 15 wagonloads of furniture came over the past week with Mexican families returning to the United States, which shows to some extent increased confidence in the stability of present conditions."

The commanding officer, subdistrict of Brownsville, reports as follows: "Nothing unusual developed during the week. Conditions normal. The reported withdrawal of the squadron of the Twelfth Cavalry from the valley, in my opinion, is responsible

for the several rumors of bandit movements across the river. The residents of the lower valley of the Rio Grande will oppose the withdrawal of any troops from the valley, and any suggested movement of troops away from this locality will, no doubt, bring on a new crop of rumors."

HARLINGEN.

The commanding officer, Twenty-sixth Infantry, reports "conditions quiet during the week."

The commanding officer, Sixth Cavalry, reports: "No disturbances due to bandits this week. It is said that Miguel Garcia from near El Soliseno Rancho, opposite Santa Maria, was trying to enlist men to make a raid into United States and offered a dollar a day as wages. He failed to get any recruits."

MERCEDES.

"Conditions have remained normal during the period in this section."

MISSION.

The commanding officer, Twenty-eighth Infantry, reports: "Conditions remained normal in this district during the week ending January 16, 1916. During this week one family emigrated to Mexico and 48 families of 80 persons immigrated to the United States."

The commanding officer of the Cavalry camp at Mission reports: "Conditions have continued normal during the past week."

FORT RINGGOLD, RIO GRANDE.

Report not received.

LAREDO.

The following report, dated January 15, was received from the commanding general, Second Brigade: "Conditions in and around Laredo have remained quiet and unchanged for the past week. Americans coming out of Mexico report a great deal of typhus fever, especially in the City of Mexico and in the towns between there and our border. There are now two cases of typhus in Laredo in the city pesthouse. Up to date there have been five cases, one of which died and two recovered."

The commanding officer, Fort McIntosh, reports: "Everything has remained quiet in this district during the past week."

EAGLE PASS.

The commanding officer, Seventeenth Infantry, reports: "Nothing has occurred to report on border conditions during the week."

The commanding officer, detachment, Fourteenth Cavalry, Eagle Pass, reports: "Conditions remain normal in this district."

DEL RIO.

"Conditions remain normal in this vicinity."

WESTERN TEXAS CAVALRY PATROL DISTRICT.

MARFA.

"Nothing of importance to report. Things have remained quiet throughout the entire district during the past week."

COLUMBUS.

The commanding officer of this station reports as follows: "It is reported that the Carranzista forces at Palomas, Mexico, have been reinforced by about 50 cavalrymen and 30 infantrymen."

HACHITA.

"Border conditions in this patrol district for the week ending January 15, 1916, have remained normal."

DOUGLAS.

The following report, dated January 15, 1916, was received from the commanding officer Second Cavalry Brigade:

"*Military situation.*—On January 13, 150 men under Col. Quevedo left Agua Prieta for Casas Grandes, to cooperate with other Carranza forces said to have been sent from Juarez. Maj. Campbell, in command, of the garrison at Agua Prieta, gave strict orders to Col. Quevedo that there should be no raiding of the country through which his troops passed and to exterminate any Villa soldiers found.

"*Economic situation.*—South of Douglas, in the Nacozari and Moctezuma districts, great activity is reported. Mining men are returning to open up their properties, and it is probable large shipments will be made in the near future. The hotel at Nacozari is crowded and means are being taken to increase the accommodations, on account of the heavy traffic expected in the spring."

The commanding officer Seventh Cavalry reports: "Conditions have remained normal in this vicinity during the week."

NACO.

"All has been quiet from a military standpoint in this vicinity during the week."

[Inclosure No. 6.]

SECRETARY OF WAR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 26, 1916.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: Referring further to your letter of January 17, 1916, stating that the Department of State has been directed by the President to prepare an answer to Senate resolution, dated January 6, 1916, in regard to the Mexican situation, and requesting that a statement be prepared by this department respecting the orders given to Gen. Funston for the protection of American lives and property on the Mexican border, together with any pertinent facts concerning the occupation and evacuation of Vera Cruz, Mexico, by the forces of the United States, I beg leave to advise you that the records of the department show as follows:

1. MEXICAN BORDER.

Advices having been received by the State Department indicating serious unrest and intrigue on both sides of the Mexican border, and information having been received from the Mexican Government through its ambassador in Washington that bands of revolutionists were assembling at various places along the frontier of Texas, directions were issued on November 19, 1910, to the commanding generals of the Departments of Texas and Colorado to investigate the situation on the frontier and to advise the War Department as to what precautionary measures were deemed practicable and necessary. As a result of the reports received the commanding general, Department of Texas, was authorized, under date of November 21, 1910, whenever in his judgment such action became necessary, to send troops to aid the civil authorities in enforcing the neutrality laws, and under date of November 22, 1910, he reported to the War Department that, in pursuance of the instructions before referred to, he had sent one troop of Cavalry to Del Rio and another troop to Eagle Pass, Tex.

The internal situation in Mexico having become more acute, and reports received from the State Department and the Department of Justice, as well as from officers of the Army on duty on the Mexican border, having indicated that serious disturbances were imminent, additional troops were sent to places on the border until the entire border line from the mouth of the Rio Grande to San Diego, Cal., was patrolled by United States troops in order to secure the strict enforcement of the rules of international law governing neutrality, as well as to obtain a proper observance and enforcement of the neutrality statutes of the Federal Government. To this end the proper officers were directed to use due diligence to see that such rules and laws were observed. Troops have been kept on the border for the purposes stated from that time to the present writing.

Commanders of United States troops on the Mexican border were ordered to give all possible protection to American life and property, to warn the commanders of Mexican forces along the border to refrain from any action that would endanger American life and property on the American side of the border, and to inform them that United States forces would be used to prevent action by Mexican troops endangering life and property on the American side of the line.

Sincerely, yours,

LINDLEY M. GARRISON,
Secretary of War.

[Inclosure No. 7.]

MR. ARREDONDO TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

AGENCIA CONFIDENCIAL DEL
GOBIERNO CONSTITUCIONALISTA DE MEXICO,
Washington, D. C., October 8, 1915.

MY DEAR MR. LANSING: Complying with your excellency's request asking me what is the attitude of the constitutionalist government in regard to the Catholic Church in Mexico, I have the honor to say that inasmuch as the reestablishment of peace within order and law is the purpose of the Government of Mr. Venustiano Carranza, to the end that all the inhabitants of Mexico without exception, whether nationals or foreigners, may equally enjoy the benefits of true justice, and hence take interest in cooperating to the support of the Government, the laws of reform, which guarantee individual freedom of worship according to everyone's conscience, shall be strictly observed. Therefore the constitutionalist government will respect everybody's life, property, and religious beliefs without other limitation than the preservation of public order and the observance of the institutions in accordance with the laws in force and the constitution of the Republic.

Hoping that I may have honored your excellency's wishes, I avail myself of this opportunity to reiterate to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

E. ARREDONDO.

His Excellency ROBERT LANSING,
Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.

[Inclosure No. 8.]

CONSUL AT CHIHUAHUA TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

AMERICAN CONSULATE,
Chihuahua, Mexico, July 31, 1915.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington, D. C.

SIR: I am in receipt of a letter dated July 28 from Mr. William J. Quigley, manager of the El Potosi Mining Co., one of the members of the Mine and Smelters Operators' Association, in which I am requested to bring the following matter to the department's attention and to request an opinion thereon, for the guidance of the parties in interest.

On July 12 the executive committee of the Mine and Smelter Operators' Association was summoned before Sr. Francisco Escudero, minister of finance in the de facto government of Gen. Villa, otherwise self-styled the conventionist government, and a request was made of them, as coming from Gen. Villa, to advance the said government the sum of $300,000, on the understanding that loans made by the various companies having membership in the association in pursuance of the request mentioned would be credited to the such companies in the payment of taxes and freight charges as these might become due in the future. The association in due time, through its secretary, advised Sr. Escudero in effect that it would be impossible for the operating mining and smelting companies to meet his demands, by reason of their foreign character, and the danger that making loans of the character proposed might be construed by adverse factions in the present civil conflict in Mexico as a hostile proceeding, in so far as they were concerned, with the result that the companies guilty of these indiscretions might lay themselves to penalties in the future.

The mining companies are now fully expecting, either in the immediate future or more remotely, action of a more vigorous kind calculated to secure the results aimed at by Sr. Escudero, and in this understanding they request the department to advise them as to what measures they should pursue to prevent the collection of forced loans that may be ordered against them.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

MARION LETCHER,
American Consul.

[Inclosure No. 8A.]

ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE TO CONSUL AT CHIHUAHUA.

AUGUST 11, 1915.

MARION LETCHER, Esq.,
American Consul, Chihuahua, Mexico.

SIR: The department has received your dispatch No. 658 of July 31, 1915, saying that you are in receipt of a communication from Mr. William J. Quigley, manager of the El Potosi Mining Co., one of the members of the Mine and Smelter Operators' Association, requesting suggestions relative to the veiled demands on American mining companies for loans.

The only advice which the department can give to the association at this time is that if the authorities in the city of Chihuahua shall attempt to impose a forced loan upon the members of the association, immediate notice of such attempt should be given to the department.

I am, sir, your obediant servant,

(Signed) WILBUR J. CARR,
For the Acting Secretary of State.

[Inclosure No. 8B.]

MINE AND SMELTER OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

EL PASO, TEX., *August 6, 1915.*

SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington.

Gen. Villa has demanded that accredited representatives of the mine and smelter operators of Chihuahua present themselves at the governor's palace at Chihuahua August 9 to meet Gen. Villa to receive a proposition of grave importance which will be submitted at that time. He threatens that properties which are not represented at the proposed meeting by fully empowered representatives will be closed. He stated that he would conclude with those present arrangements which would be binding on the industry although we have pointed out to Villa that the specific purpose of the meeting and the object for discussion must be known before necessary authority with proper limitation can be delegated by the principals to their representatives or agents, nevertheless he has flatly refused to state to us or even to indicate the nature of the proposition which is to be submitted. It is our unanimous opinion that Villa's purpose is to obtain money unjustly and coercively. We realize from previous instances the liklihood that coercive methods and intimidation will be applied by Villa at such a meeting. On July 12 Señor Escudero, secretary of hacienda, acting under instructions of Gen. Villa, proposed that because of the urgent needs of his government the members of this association each advance as large a sum as possible such advance to be repaid by crediting same against amounts which should become payable for mining taxes and railroad freights. Total amount required was stated as $300,000 gold. We refused to contribute on grounds that such advances would compromise us because open to construction as participation in the internal political affairs of Mexico. We are therefore apprehensive that Villa now intends to exact a forced loan or its equivalent, hence we respectfully and earnestly request that appropriate representations be made to Gen. Villa for the purpose of forestalling any demands upon us by him for a forced loan or any other illegal exaction. We believe that such representations are necessary to protect our rights and will avoid disagreeable and embarrassing complications in the present delicate situation.

Respectfully,

MINE AND SMELTER OPERATORS' ASSOCIATION,
El Paso, Tex.

[Inclosure No. 8C.]

GEORGE C. CAROTHERS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

EL PASO, TEX.,
August 12, 1915.

SECRETARY OF STATE, *Washington:*

In conference between Gen. Scott and myself accompanied by a committee representing the mining men of Chihuahua and Gen. Villa, we convinced Villa of the impracticability of enforcing his proposed decrees as against the mining men and he definitely agreed with us to let the mining men alone and to discuss with them the problem of keeping the railroads open, the mining men requesting him to protect their stock of goods which it is necessary for them to import and Villa offered absolute protection and an escort of all goods ordered to the mines and to enforce his military commanders to abstain from confiscating their stocks of merchandise. At this meeting, the mining men voluntarily presented Gen. Villa with 1,000 tons of coal to assist in the operation of the railroad. It is both Gen. Scott's and my opinion that we should abstain from making further representations to Villa for several days so as not to tire him. As soon as expedient I will take up the Tlahualilo and other cases with him.

GEO. C. CAROTHERS.

[Inclosure No. 9.]

REAR ADMIRAL FLETCHER TO THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

U. S. S. "FLORIDA,"
Vera Cruz, Mexico, April 9, 1914.

SECRETARY NAVY, *Washington:*

Mayo reports, 5 p. m. Thursday:

This forenoon Mexican soldiers arrested paymaster and whale boat's crew of *Dolphin*, part of whom were in boat with flag flying, marched them two blocks through streets, then back to boat, and there released them. Gen. Zaragoza expressed regret verbally. In view of publicity of event I have called for formal disavowal and apology (and) punishment of officer in charge Mexican squad, and salute to American flag within 24 hours from 6 p. m., Thursday.

MAYO.

Utah left for Tampico 7 p. m., Thursday.

FLETCHER.

[Inclosure No. 9A.]

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 19, 1916.

SIR: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 17, 1916, in which you inform this department that the President has directed the Department of State to prepare a reply to Senate resolution dated January 6, 1916, requesting certain documents, letters, reports, orders, and so forth, in regard to the Mexican situation, in connection with which you request that a statement be prepared for you embodying the pertinent facts concerning the occu-

pation of Vera Cruz by our naval forces. It is noted that you have requested the Secretary of War to have a similar statement prepared.

In compliance with your request, I have the honor to inform you that on the night of April 20, 1914, in obedience to orders from the President of the United States, Admiral Fletcher, commanding the naval forces then stationed off Vera Cruz, Mexico, was directed to seize and hold the customhouse at Vera Cruz and not to permit war supplies to be delivered to the Huerta government or to any other party. These orders were received by Admiral Fletcher at 8 a. m on April 21. The American consul was immediately notified and directed to send all foreigners aboard the Ward Line steamer *Mexico*, then in the harbor of Vera Cruz. The Mexican military commandant was notified of the intention of our forces to take charge of the customhouse. At 11.30 a. m. on April 21 a landing force from the U. S. S. *Florida*, *Utah*, and *Prairie*, totaling 787 officers and men, of which 502 were marines, had been landed and had taken charge of the customhouse, cable station, railway station, and post office at Vera Cruz. No resistance was encountered on the initial landing, but about noon the Mexican forces began firing on the American troops, so that in order to hold the customhouse it became necessary to occupy the city of Vera Cruz. Reinforcements arrived on the night of the 21st instant, and by April 24 complete control of the city was gained by the American forces. On April 24 Admiral Fletcher declared martial law in the city of Vera Cruz. Army transports arrived at Vera Cruz on April 28, and after conference with Gen. Funston, Admiral Fletcher established a civil government under martial law.

At 8 a. m. on April 30, the forces of the Army were landed from transports, and at 2 p. m. of that date control of the city was taken over by the Army. The naval forces, with the exception of the marines, were withdrawn to the vessels in the harbor, and the marines were assigned to duty with the Army.

Copies of all messages in reference to the occupation of Vera Cruz were sent to your department.

Sincerely, yours,

JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure No. 9B.]

SECRETARY OF WAR TO SECRETARY OF STATE.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, January 26, 1916.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

MY DEAR MR. SECRETARY: Referring further to your letter of January 17, 1916, stating that the Department of State has been directed by the President to prepare an answer to Senate resolution dated January 6, 1916, in regard to the Mexican situation, and requesting that a statement be prepared by this department respecting the orders given to Gen. Funston for the protection of American lives and property on the Mexican border, together with any pertinent facts concerning the occupation and evacuation of Vera Cruz, Mexico, by the forces of the United States, I beg leave to advise you that the records of the department show as follows:

1. MEXICAN BORDER.

* * * * * * *

2. OCCUPATION AND EVACUATION OF VERA CRUZ, MEXICO.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, having been, by direction of the President, occupied by the naval forces of the United States, instructions were issued on April 23, 1914, to the commanding general, second division, Texas City, Tex., to cause the reinforced Fifth Brigade to embark as soon as practicable on the Army transports *Sumner*, *McClellan*, *Kilpatrick*, and *Meade*, and to proceed at once to Vera Cruz.

On April 24, 1914, the four regiments of Infantry of the Fifth Brigade, together with Company E, Second Battalion of Engineers, and Field Hospital No. 3, a total of 182 officers and 3,047 enlisted men, sailed from Galveston, Tex., under the command of Brig. Gen. Funston, United States Army, and arrived in Vera Cruz Harbor on April 28, 1914, and disembarked. On April 26, 1914, the First Battalion of the Fourth Field Artillery sailed from Texas City for Vera Cruz on the chartered transport *Satilla* to join Gen. Funston's command.

On April 26, 1914, orders were issued to Gen. Funston, in compliance with instructions received from the President, upon arrival at Vera Cruz, to relieve the Navy of its duties ashore incident to the occupation and control of the city of Vera Cruz and its environs. Gen. Funston was advised on the same date that pursuant to the orders of the President the First Brigade, United States Marine Corps, would be placed under his command for service with the Army.

On April 29, 1914, the headquarters, band, and detachment of the First Battalion, Fourth Field Artillery, and Troops I and K, Sixth Cavalry, sailed from Galveston for Vera Cruz on the chartered transport *San Marcos;* and on April 30, 1914, Company D, Signal Corps, sailed for Vera Cruz on the naval transport *Esperanza.*

Gen. Funston reported taking over from the Navy the command at Vera Cruz on the afternoon of April 30, 1914.

A military government was established by General Orders, No. 3, Headquarters, United States Expeditionary Forces, May 2, 1914. This order set forth the principle that the government established thereby would continue the system to which the people of Vera Cruz were accustomed, in so far as consistent with military control, and from that date until the evacuation the Army continued to administer the civil affairs of the city.

The executive branches of the military government established by the general order cited above consisted of the following:

The office of the provost marshal general.

The office of the treasurer.

The customs service, including the lighthouse service, to which was later added the pilot service.

The United States mail agency and the general post office.

Each of these branches was placed in charge of an officer of the Army, except the customs service, which was administered by Commander H. O. Stickney, United States Navy, as administrator of customs and captain of the port, and the United States mail agency and the general post office, which were administered by Mr. H. M. Robin-

son, an official of the Post Office Department, sent to Vera Cruz for the purpose.

Prior to the evacuation, instructions were issued to Gen. Funston to bring with him to the United States all funds in his possession from whatever source derived, both United States funds and Mexican custom receipts and taxes. He was also instructed to bring with him all the records, accounts, and money papers necessary to establish the integrity and accuracy of his financial and other administration, and to make an inventory of all goods in the customhouse, keeping the original of such inventory and leaving a copy with the American consul at Vera Cruz. Gen. Funston was also authorized to leave with the latter such copies of accounts or other data as might be required by whomsoever might continue the government of the city.

On November 14, 1914, as the result of an announcement issued by the State Department on November 13, 1914, Gen. Funston was directed to make all preparations to leave Vera Cruz Monday, November 23, 1914.

On November 20, 1914, Gen. Funston was instructed to evacuate Vera Cruz on the date specified above, viz, Monday, November 23, 1914.

On November 23, 1914, Gen. Funston advised the department that he would embark his command at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of that day on the transports *Sumner*, *Kilpatrick*, *Cristobal*, *McClellan*, *Kansan*, *Antilla*, *City of Memphis*, *Denver*, and *San Marcos*.

On November 26, 1914, Gen. Funston reported the arrival of his command at Galveston, Tex.

Subsequently to his arrival at Galveston, Gen. Funston reported that the Mexican funds brought with him to the United States, together with the money papers pertaining thereto, had been placed for safe-keeping in the strong room of the First National Bank at Galveston, storage room for all other records of the military government of Vera Cruz having been provided by the depot quartermaster at Galveston. In this connection Gen. Funston suggested the advisability of sending the Mexican funds and the records of the treasurer's office to the subtreasury at New Orleans, La., for safe-keeping. Upon receipt of that suggestion the department communicated at once with the Treasury Department with a view to ascertaining as to whether it would be practicable to place these funds and records in the subtreasury at New Orleans as suggested, and the Treasury Department having signified its willingness to have the funds and records so transferred, Maj. Blanton Winship, judge advocate, United States Army, who had immediate charge of these funds and records, was advised accordingly.

On January 1, 1915, Maj. Winship reported that he had on that date shipped to the subtreasury at New Orleans, La., one field safe, sealed, containing 1,539,051.20 Mexican pesos, and the books and records pertaining to the military treasurer's office, together with one sealed wooden box containing 1,065,000 Mexican pesos, or a net total of 2,604,051.20 pesos.

On January 12, 1915, the department advised the Secretary of State of the transfer of the Mexican funds and records, as set forth above.

Sincerely, yours,

LINDLEY M. GARRISON,
Secretary of War.

[Inclosure No. 10.]

SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE BRAZILIAN MINISTER IN MEXICO.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, September 22, 1914.

The BRAZILIAN MINISTER, *Mexico:*

Certain rumors have reached this Government as to actions which may possibly be taken by the authorities at Vera Cruz after its evacuation, namely:

The exaction of further payments of duties on merchandise which has passed through the customhouse since American occupation and on which the duties have been paid. The exaction of further payments of local and municipal taxes paid since American occupation, such as license fees, property taxes, street taxes, etc. The imposition of fines or other penalties upon Mexican citizens, who have been employed in connection with the civil government of the city since American occupation.

You are requested to call these subjects to the attention of Gen. Carranza and state to him that this Government, while it does not give credence to these rumors, as such actions would be manifestly unjust, considers that to avoid possible improper conduct by subordinates and to allay apprehension at Vera Cruz it is hoped that Gen. Carranza will give a specific assurance in regard to each subject that the rumored action will not be permitted.

You will please intimate to Gen. Carranza the advisability of giving these assurances in definite form and as soon as possible in order that there may be no delay in carrying out the proposed evacuation of Vera Cruz by the American forces.

You will also please call to Gen. Carranza's attention the fact that there is in Vera Cruz a large number of so-called refugees, among them many priests and nuns, who came there because of apprehension as to their personal safety while civil strife prevailed in Mexico. This Government earnestly hopes that Gen. Carranza will be willing to announce that the Mexican central authorities will not countenance or permit any wanton mistreatment of these people, but will assure them that protection which an enlightened and orderly Government affords to individuals within its jurisdiction.

ROBERT LANSING,
Acting Secretary of State.

[Inclosure No. 11.]

BRAZILIAN MINISTER IN MEXICO TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO,
November 10, 1914.

SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington, D. C.:

November 10—11 a.m.—Acting Secretary for Foreign Relations, who is now in Cordoba, State of Vera Cruz, with Carranza, invited me this morning to have a telegraphic conference over the wire of the foreign

office, during which he transmitted the following note, with request that same be transcribed to you at once:

CORDOBA, *November 10, 1914.*

MR. MINISTER: Referring to your excellency's note, dated the 2d instant, relative to the evacuation of Vera Cruz by forces of the United States of America, by order of the first chief of the constitutionalist army in charge of the executive of the union, I have the honor to inform your excellency as follows: The chamber of commerce and the owners of real estate at the port of Vera Cruz, as well as the employees who have served in several capacities in the administration of the port during American occupation, have addressed themselves to the first chief of the constitutionalist army in charge of the executive, through the governor and military commander of the State, stating that the taxpayers will be satisfied with such resolutions of the National Government as may be later passed by it in reference to the collection of fiscal dues as have been paid to the American authorities who have been in exercise in the port; also, that the employees are disposed to submit themselves to such disposition as the Mexican authorities may see fit. The first chief of the constitutionalist army in charge of the executive is now of the attitude assumed by the chamber of commerce, the owners of the city real estate, and the above-mentioned employees, and of his considering so fit for the welfare of national interests, has been pleased to issue, under date of the 8th and 9th instant, the following decree:

"Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the constitutional army in charge of the executive power of the United States of Mexico, using of the extraordinary authority in me vested, and considering that the chamber of commerce and the majority of owners and administrators of real estate at the port of Vera Cruz have addressed the executive in my charge, renouncing the protection asked for in their behalf by the United States Government before expecting the evacuation of Vera Cruz, stating categorically that they will abide by all the just decisions which the Mexican Government may render in reference to the collection of fiscal dues previously collected by foreign authorities, and because I consider it convenient to the national interests, I have seen fit to decree as follows:

"'Article 1. On the occupation of Vera Cruz by the Mexican authorities no exa? tion will be made from the inhabitants of the port for the payment of taxes or any other contributions of Federal character which may have previously been paid to the foreign authorities which temporarily occupied the port.

"'Article 2. In order to be entitled to the privilege granted by this decree it will be sufficient for interested persons to present to the tax collector's office the receipts showing that such payments were made to the authorities established during the occupation of Vera Cruz by the American forces.'

"And I have to inform you of the above for its immediate publication and due observance.

"V. CARRANZA."

CONSTITUTION AND REFORMS,
General Headquarters at Cordoba, November 8, 1914.

The second decree reads as follows:

Venustiano Carranza, first chief of the constitutionalist army in charge of the executive power of the United States of Mexico, by virtue of the extraordinary faculties in me vested, and considering, firstly, the Mexican and foreign employees who have served the authorities established in Vera Cruz during its occupation by American forces have addressed this first office of the constitutionalist army through the governor and military commander of this State, stating of their own accord, that they only recognize the national government as entitled to resolve the questions of interior order such as refer to the punishment or partion of persons who, as themselves, have served the foreign authorities; secondly, that they expressly declared that they will be agreeable to the decisions that the national government may render in regard to them in order that they may not be considered as an obstacle for the eminently patriotic act of obtaining a speedy evacuation of Vera Cruz; and, thirdly, that the spontaneous and patriotic attitude of such employees has made them deserving of an amnesty for such penalties as they might have incurred, in I have seen fit to issue the following decree:

"General amnesty is hereby granted to all persons who may have served as employees in the several branches of the public administration that in a de facto manner have exercised control temporarily during the occupation of Vera Cruz by American forces."

And I communicate the above to you so that you may in turn make it known to the federal and local authorities of the Republic for its immediate publication and strict observance.

V. CARRANZA.

CONSTITUTION AND REFORMS,
General Headquarters at Cordoba, November 9, 1914.

Gen. Candido Aguilar, as military governor of the State of Vera Cruz, has to-day issued the following decree:

The government in my charge is obligated to dispense its protection to such persons as may have paid the fiscal dues in the port of Vera Cruz to the American authorities, and that such protection should be made extensive to the new collection of such dues a second time as have been paid, it being so considered in equity, and considering that a large majority of the residents of said port recognize that the Mexican Government is the only one which ought to protect them, they place themselves under its protection as an act of pure patriotism. For the above considerations, I have seen fit to decree as follows:

"Article 1. Upon the evacuation of Vera Cruz by the American forces and its occupation by the Mexican authorities, no exaction will be made from the inhabitants of the port for either municipal or state dues such as may have been previously paid by them to the foreign authorities who occupied the port.

"Article 2. In order to be able to enjoy the benefits granted by this decree, it will be sufficient to present to the respective collectors' offices the receipts showing the payments made to the functionaries of the administration which had control of affairs during American occupation."

Therefore I order that the above be published, circulated, and duly complied with.

Issued at Cordoba on the 10th day of November, 1914.

GEN. C. AGUILAR.
J. DOMINGUEZ,
Assistant Secretary of the Government.

In view of the fact that the Mexican Government has issued the decrees which I have had the honor to transcribe to you above, the causes pointed out by the Government of the United States of America for the continued occupation of the port of Vera Cruz have disappeared. In consequence, the first chief of the constitutionalist army in charge of the executive of the union, trusts that, as offered in your note of November 2, the Government of the United States of America will not delay any longer the evacuation of Vera Cruz and will proceed at once to evacuate the port.

I protest to you, Mr. Minister, the assurances of my highest consideration.

ISIDRO FABELA.

CONSTITUTION AND REFORMS.

CARDOSO DE OLIVEIRA.

[Inclosure No. 12.]

LIST OF AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO DURING THE YEARS 1913, 1914, AND 1915.

The list of Americans killed in Mexico during the period mentioned above is subdivided into five classes, as follows:

Class 1.—Americans killed in Mexico from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances.

Class 2.—Americans who have disappeared in Mexico and who were probably killed from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances.

Class 3.—Americans killed, apparently through motives of robbery, by bandits or others (not including those killed by Indians).

Class 4.—Americans killed by Indians, apparently through motives of robbery or revenge.

Class 5.—Americans killed in Mexico during the period mentioned from miscellaneous causes and causes not definitely stated.

AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO FROM CAUSES THAT CAN BE ATTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO THE REVOLUTIONARY DISTURBANCES.

Class 1—1913.

John B. Alamia, May 13: Hanged as spy and for other alleged crimes, at Rio Bravo, State of Tamaulipas.

John Henry Thomas, August 13: Assassinated by federal soldiers at Madera, State of Chihuahua. Murderers executed.

Edmund Hayes, August 15: Assassinated by same band of soldiers as Thomas, above.

William C. Robertson, September 10: Murdered by revolutionists at El Lobo, Mazatlan district, State of Sinaloa, for failing to show his passport promptly and resisting while being disarmed.

Porfirio Laurel, November 1: Arrested at Nuevo Laredo charged with smuggling ammunition to revolutionists. Stabbed to death with bayonet. Appears to have been killed before being brought to trial.

Charles Seggerson, November 15: Appears to have been accidentally shot in the back when Villa captured Juarez.

Luciano Martinez, December 6: Reported to have been about 16 years old when killed. He enlisted in the rebel ranks in the Tampico district. Representations were made to the authorities to release him, but no definite action appears to have been taken by them in the matter, and Martinez was killed in battle.

Incarnacion Sanchez, December 31: Said to have been murdered by Mexican federal officials at Mexicali.

Jose Valencia, December 31: Murdered at the same time as Sanchez, above.

Class 1—1914.

Frank Smith, January 26: Killed by federals in the vicinity of Tampico. No motive known. Federal lieutenant and sergeant were court-martialed and executed for this crime.

Guy S. Sawyer, April —, 1914: Wounded during attack on Monterey by constitutionalists and died from effects.

Dr. E. E. Kelly, August 27: Shot in the back and killed by Indian soldiers at Navajoa, Hermosillo district, State of Sonora. No motive known.

F. C. Chapel, November 16: Shot and killed by Mexican soldier at Nogales, State of Sonora. Soldier was on sentry duty and had challenged Chapel. No reason was given as to why he was challenged. The soldier was placed under arrest, but was afterwards released.

Class 1—1915.

John B. McManus, March 11: Shot and killed by Zapatistas in Mexico City. Victim was defending his home against assault, due to revenge. Palafox, Villista-Zapatista Conventionista Acting Secretary of Foreign Affairs, expressed deep regret for the murder. Widow was paid 120,000 pesos, or about $20,000 gold.

Isaac R. Ely, May 15: Accidentally shot by Villistas while they were attacking the Ebano pump station, Tampico district.

J. N. Bennett, May 26: Shot by Villistas and killed while in launch with Carranzista soldiers, on the Panuco River, off Tampico.

A. Martinette, About June 1: Killed at Cumpas by Maytorena (Villista) soldiers under Gen. Trujillo.

Edgar Bean, November 20: Reported to have been murdered at Puerto Citos, a suburb of Cananea, State of Sonora. It was reported that Bean was an engineer, and that when his engine ran off the track Col. Beltran, of the Villista forces, became enraged and shot him.

Americans killed in Mexico from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances (1913, 1914, 1915), 18.

AMERICANS WHO HAVE DISAPPEARED IN MEXICO AND WHO HAVE PROBABLY BEEN KILLED FROM CAUSES THAT CAN BE ATTRIBUTED DIRECTLY TO THE REVOLUTIONARY DISTURBANCES (COVERS THE PERIOD FROM THE FIRST OF 1913 TO AND INCLUDING 1915).

CLASS 2—1914.

Gustav Bauch, February 15: Arrested as spy in Ciudad Juarez by Villistas. Disappeared between Ciudad Juarez and Chihuahua. Special Representative Carothers stated that he thought Bauch was killed by order of Gen. Villa.

Harry Compton, February 15: Reported sentenced to be executed. Investigations at Chihuahua, Ciudad Juarez, and Ojinaga revealed no trace of him.

Charles Milton, March 26: Rumored murdered by band of Huerta followers south of Cananea, State of Sonora.

Juan Coy, April 6: Disappeared when Monclova was being attacked; may have been killed in attack; no trace of Coy ever found.

CLASS 2—1915.

Charles S. Dalrymple, February 12: Seen in prison at Victoria, State of Tamaulipas. Stated to passerby that he had just been transferred from Chihuahua, where he had been held incomunicado for a year. No trace of him ever found after being seen in Victoria.

Peter Scott, about June 1: Rumored killed at Navajoa, near Nogales, State of Sonora. No details and no further report.

Total number of Americans who disappeared in Mexico in the period from 1913 to 1915, inclusive, 6.

AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO, APPARENTLY THROUGH MOTIVES OF ROBBERY, BY BANDITS OR OTHERS (NOT INCLUDING THOSE KILLED BY INDIANS—SHOWN IN A SEPARATE LIST).

CLASS 3—1913.

Boris Gorow, February 20: Killed by bandits in the Territory of Tepic.

Mrs. Charles E. Ross, August 28: Also known as Kitty Hines. Murdered by four Mexicans whom she surprised while they were robbing her home at Chihuahua.

Maurice P. Root, September 2: Stabbed to death while resisting robbery at Mazatlan. Murderer never brought to justice.

CLASS 3—1914.

Clemente Vergarra, February 13: Seized near Piedras Negras. The reason for his seizure was not stated. It was reported that although Vergarra's release was ordered he was afterwards killed.

Weston Burwell, about April 23: Killed at Ozuluama by orders of a federal officer, Col. Quirol. Motive supposed to have been robbery. Quirol was afterwards arrested in the United States and deported to Habana, Cuba.

C. B. Hoadley, May 10: Reported killed at the same time certain British subjects were killed or wounded in raids on mines in the Guadalajara district. Motive probably robbery.

CLASS 3—1915.

John Glenn Parmenter, May 26: Murdered by bandits after being robbed near Guadalajara. Some of the bandits were killed by pursuing soldiers.

Edward Freeman Welles, August 13: Killed by bandits when train was attacked between Santa Lucrecia and Vera Cruz; bandits not apprehended.

James Jacoby, August 21: Murdered at Chihuahua City; motive probably robbery. No results from investigation.

James E. Taylor, September 16: Died as a result of being shot through the stomach while protecting his home from robbery near Panuco, State of Vera Cruz.

Total number of Americans killed in Mexico in 1913, 1914, and 1915, apparently through motives of robbery, by bandits or others (not including those killed by Indians shown in a separate list), 10.

AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO BY INDIANS, APPARENTLY THROUGH MOTIVES OF ROBBERY OR REVENGE.

Class 4—1913.

Edward Gregory Dexter, January 14: Murdered by Indians at San Juan Taviche, near Oaxaca. Four men arrested for the crime.

Class 4—1914.

Tom Farrell, June 26: Killed from ambush by either Yaqui Indians or Mexicans, between San Javier and La Colorado, Hermosillo district.

O. A. L. Squires, August 6: Killed by Yaquis at La Colorado, Hermosillo district, while trying to prevent robbery.

John Williams, August 10: Killed near Vasitos, State of Sonora, by Mexicans or Yaquis.

Class 4—1915.

Eugene Camera, February 25: Murdered by Yaquis at Lencho Station, Guaymas district, State of Sonora.

C. M. Brown, April 27: Shot and killed by Mayo Indians at Ahome, Mazatlan district, State of Sinaloa.

John P. Wilson, May 11: Killed by Yaqui Indians at Esperanza, State of Sonora.

J. J. Donovan, May 11: Killed by same band of Yaquis.

Joseph Tays, September 5: Murdered by Indians near San Blas, State of Sinaloa.

W. A. Fay, May 11: Killed by the same band of Yaquis that murdered Wilson and Donovan above.

Charles Goldsborough, November 4: Killed along with two companions by Indians in the district of Fuerte, State of Sinaloa. Identity of companions not known; evidently Mexicans.

W. S. Windham, November 6: Murdered by Indians at Quimichis ranch, Territory of Tepic, through motive of revenge.

Total number of Americans killed by Indians apparently through motives of robbery or revenge, 1913, 1914, and 1915, 12.

AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY DISTURBANCES IN THE YEARS 1913, 1914, AND 1915 FROM MISCELLANEOUS CAUSES AND FROM CAUSES NOT DEFINITELY STATED.

Class 5—1913.

Frank Horace, March —: Murdered by Mexican citizen at Coalcoman, State of Michoacan. Murderer arrested but escaped. Later reported to have been enlisted in the army.

Walter Van Den Bosch, March 17: Murdered by Mexican civilian at Durango. Two men arrested.

James O. Lawrence, March 22: Murdered by Mexican civilian at Tampico.

Albert H. Lawrence, March 31: Shot and killed by Mexican at Tampico. Assailant sentenced, then released; later shot by Mexican army officer.

William W. Corrie, April 1: Was attached to the U. S. S. *California*. Reported murdered by chief of police of Guayamas.

John C. Klesow, April 1: Attached to the U. S. S. *California*. Reported murdered at the same time as Corrie in the same manner.

William Protexter, May 12: Shot by two Mexican civilians at La Junta, Chihuahua. One of the Mexicans was shot and killed by Protexter. Protexter died as a result of his wound.

Henry Knox Burton, July 13: Murdered by Constitutionalist soldier at Santa Rosalia. No motive known. Murderer was arrested, but previous to attack on town by enemy was released.

Victor W. East, September 16: Murdered in the State of Campeche. Murderer escaped.

John Edson, November: Murdered with machetes by four men at El Venado, Guadalajara.

Mrs. John Edson, November: Reported fatally wounded at the same time.

CLASS 5—1914.

Peder Pederson, January 2: Murdered in Canton Ozuluama, State of Vera Cruz.

February 4: Bandits ran some burning stock cars into the Cumbre Tunnel, in the State of Chihuahua, and a passenger train collided with them. The following Americans are known to have been killed: M. J. Gilmartin, Bernard Schofield, John E. Webster, E. J. McCutcheon, J. I. Morris, Lee Williams, Thomas Kelly, and H. F. Maderis.

E. M. Harmon, February 22: Murdered at Madera, State of Chihuahua.

Oscar Allen, March 15: Murdered at Pearson, Chihuahua.

James Crawford, May 14: Murdered near Panuco, State of Vera Cruz.

Richard Urban, May 20: Murdered west of Nacozari, State of Sonora. May possibly have been murdered by partner. No further report.

Edward L. Nixon, September 21: Stabbed to death at Tampico by six Mexicans. Murderers were placed under arrest. The American vice consul reported in April, 1915, that they would be tried upon the establishment of a civil court.

Herbert Atwater, December 29: Died from being stabbed by a Mexican civilian at San Jeronimo, State of Vera Cruz.

CLASS 5—1915.

February—Body of a man, supposed to be that of Walter McIntosh, found at Tampico; presumably murdered. No clues.

Reyes Grijalva, April 25: Shot by a Mexican policeman at Nogales while trying to escape arrest. The policeman was placed under arrest, and on May 10 Maytorena the Villista governor) promised that the policeman would be tried.

W. M. Byrd, jr., April 27: Executed near Tampico. He was reported to have been guilty of stealing cattle and changing brands, and it was stated that he was arrested on complaint of Americans. He appears to have been summarily executed by Gen. Urbina without the formality of a trial.

Gilbert Teanhl, June 16: Killed at Charcas, State of San Luis Potosi, while trying to stop a quarrel.

Total number of Americans killed in Mexico during the revolutionary disturbances in the years 1913, 1914, and 1915 from miscellaneous causes and from causes not definitely stated, 30.

Grand total of Americans killed in Mexico during the revolutionary disturbances in the years 1913, 1914, and 1915:

(1) Americans killed in Mexico from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances	18
(2) Americans who have disappeared in Mexico in 1913, 1914, and 1915 and who were probably killed from causes that can be attributed directly to the revolutionary disturbances	6
(3) Americans killed, apparently through motives of robbery or revenge (not including those killed by Indians)	10
(4) Americans killed by Indians, apparently through motives of robbery or revenge	12
(5) Americans killed in Mexico during the revolutionary disturbances in the years 1913, 1914, and 1915 from miscellaneous causes and causes not definitely stated	30
Grand total of Americans killed during the period mentioned	76

In this connection it may be stated that when the murder of American citizens was reported the Department of State made representations, through its representatives, for the apprehension and punishment of the assailants; and in some instances the department's representatives made such representations to the appropriate officials on their own initiative.

Where there has been no definite information as to the apprehension of those reported to be guilty of outrages on American citizens, resulting in their death, a notation to that effect has been omitted from these lists for the sake of brevity.

[Inclosure No. 12A.]

AMERICANS KILLED IN MEXICO IN 1910, 1911, AND 1912.

1910.

James M. Reid, November 20, Mexico City: Shot and killed by a Mexican policeman. Murderer was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment.

The following Americans were reported killed in the Republic of Mexico in 1910 from miscellaneous criminal causes not connected directly with the revolutionary disturbances: Cummings, Green, Hughes, Lockart, McLaughlin, Maxwell, Parson, Pennington, Randall.

1911.

William E. Fowler, March 9, Tuxpam, State of Vera Cruz: Murdered by a Mexican peon. Murdered man was a naturalized American citizen and a Canadian by birth.

George Critchfield, April 7, Ranche Zapatal, near Tuxpam: Died from gunshot wound. Supposed murderer was placed on trial. No definite report of the outcome of the trial was made at the time.

Roy M. Godman, April 30, 25 miles from Acapulco: Was murdered by a band of 70 or 80 insurgents.

Samuel Hidy, May 18, Los Platanos Colony, San Luis Potosi: Motive apparently robbery. Mexican foreign office informed the American Embassy that everything possible was being done to apprehend the murderers.

Elbert Pope, May or June, apparently in Lower California: Led a raid from California into Lower California.

John G. D. Carroll, June 11, Alamo, Lower California: Reported murdered by Mexican federal auxiliary soldiers. Carroll had taken out his first papers to become a Mexican citizen.

Dr. Allan L. Foster, June 11, Alamo, Lower California: Killed at the same time as Carroll.

Patrick Glennon, June 11, Alamo, Lower California: Killed at the same time as Carroll and Foster. Glennon was a naturalized American of Irish birth.

Milton K. Willis, July 17, Calexico or Mexicali, Lower California: Was shot in a quarrel with another man. His assailant is said to have been related to a local judge. Assailant was imprisoned and later released on the ground of self-defense. No further report at the time.

Oscar M. Pelham, about September 14, Santa Gertrudis mine, near City of Pachuca: Conflicting statements as to how murder occurred. (American citizenship in doubt. May have been a Canadian.)

The following Americans were reported killed in the Republic of Mexico in 1911 from miscellaneous criminal causes not connected directly with the revolutionary disturbances: Berthold, Bishop, Clark, Gillett, Jones, Lawton, Lesher, McClelland, Royer, Shope, Swazay, Urby.

1912.

W. H. Waite, April 4, Ochotal, State of Vera Cruz: Reported murdered by one or more employees on his plantation. Consul Haskell at Salina Cruz reported the shooting of two persons supposed to be guilty of this crime.

Thomas A. J. Fountain, April 9, apparently in district surrounding the City of Chihuahua: Reported murdered by rebels under Orozco and under the immediate command of Salazar.

Henry Crumley (also reported Cromley), July 21, Purandiro, near Michoacan: Killed by a servant or in a fight over a woman (two versions of Crumley's death).

Rowan Ayers, about August 14, Patzcuaro, State of Michoacan: Reported murdered through motives of robbery and revenge. The Mexican Embassy in Washington and the American Embassy at Mexico City reported that the murderer had been caught and would be executed.

John J. Brooks, November 17, Chuichupa, Chihuahua: Reported killed by rebels while resisting robbery.

Ernest Spillsbury, December 31, Pachuca: Apparently murdered by a Mexican civilian.

The following Americans were reported killed in the Republic of Mexico in 1912, from miscellaneous criminal causes not connected directly with the revolutionary disturbances: Adams, Buckerdike, Crawford, Haigler, Harvey, Meyer, Reterman, Stevens, Thompson.

Total number of Americans killed in Mexico in 1910, as shown above	10
In 1911	22
In 1912	15
Grand total	47

[Inclosure No. 12B.]

AMERICANS REPORTED KILLED IN UNITED STATES TERRITORY

Americans reported killed in United States territory as a result of the Mexican border troubles during the years 1913, 1914, and 1915:

Special deputy, about September 13, 1913, Corrizo Springs, Tex.: Consular report stated that the deputy was killed in a conflict between a sheriff's posse and smugglers. Posse was assisting United States soldiers.

Four American citizens were reported killed in Naco, Ariz., in 1914. Names and dates not stated. They were presumably killed from shots fired across the border from the Mexican side, as a result of fighting between Mexican factions.

1915.

Juan Balamia, May 13: Executed by orders of Gen. Blanco, after court-martial, at Rio Bravo, in the Matamoros consular district.

Texas ranger (name not stated), May 27, near Pelares, Mexico: Killed on American territory by Mexican bandits.

American river guard, May 27, near Pelares, Mexico: Killed at same time as Texas ranger above.

Dr. E. S. McCain, October 19, near Brownsville, Tex.: Mortally wounded by Mexicans in train hold-up; died October 19. Raiding party.

American trainman (name not stated), December 21: Reported by collector of customs at El Paso, Tex., as having been killed while standing on a freight car. The report stated that the shot was fired by an irresponsible Mexican soldier during recent trouble in Juarez connected with turning over of garrison to Carranza forces. An unverified report stated that soldier firing shot was immediately afterwards killed.

George A. Diepert, December 21: Reported killed by shots fired across the border during a battle at Juarez.

American (name and date not reported): Killed at Douglas, Ariz.

Bernard Boley, July 22: Reported by the consul at Matamoros as having been killed near Raymondville.

Bonefacio Benavides, July 31: Reported by the consul at Matamoros as having been killed near Los Indios.

A. L. Austin, August 7: Killed by bandits at his home. Reported by the consul at Matamoros.

Charles Austin, August 7: Son of A. L. Austin, killed at the same time. Reported by the American consul at Matamoros.

Charles Jensen (no date stated): Was a watchman at Lyford Gin. Reported by the American consul at Matamoros.

R. E. Donaldson, September 2: Reported by the consul at Matamoros as having been murdered at Fresnos Tract.

J. T. Smith, September 2: Same as above.

Engineer Kendall, October 19: Killed when bandits wrecked and looted a train 6 miles from Brownsville. Reported by the American consul at Matamoros.

Total number of Americans reported killed as above, 20.

[Inclosure No. 12C.]

AMERICAN SOLDIERS KILLED IN AMERICAN TERRITORY.

American soldiers killed in American territory on account of Mexican border troubles:

Two soldiers killed at Naco, Ariz., August, 1914.

1915.

William S. Warwick, January 29: Killed by shots fired across the border during a battle at Juarez, Mexico.

George R. Maguire, private, August 2, Alice Road, Tex.: Killed in a skirmish with Mexican bandits.

Leo C. Windhaus, private, August 10, Palm Garden, Mercedes, Tex.: Killed in a skirmish with Mexican bandits. Raiding party.

John Willman, corporal, August 16, Progresso Ferry, Tex.: Killed by fire from band of Mexicans from Mexican side.

Anthony Kraft, private, September 13, Los Indios Ranch, Tex.: Killed in a skirmish with Mexican bandits. Raiding party.

——— Forney, private, September 13, Los Indios Ranch, Tex.: Killed in a skirmish with Mexican bandits' raiding party.

Henry Stubblefield, private, September 24, Progresso Ferry, Tex.: Killed in attack on Progresso post office by Mexican raiders.

Albert T. McBee, corporal, October 18, on train near Brownsville, Tex.: Killed by Mexican bandits' raiding party during holdup.

Ernest Shaffer, sergeant, October 20, Ojo de Agua, Tex.: Killed by Mexican raiding party.

Martin F. Joyce, private, October 20, Ojo de Agua, Tex.: Killed by Mexican raiding party.

Herbert McConnell, private, October 20, Ojo de Agua, Tex.: Killed by Mexican raiding party.

——— ——— (name not yet reported to War Department), November 1, Douglas, Ariz.: Killed in trench by firing across border during attack on Agua Prieta.

Harry J. Jones, private, November 1 or 2, Douglas, Ariz.: Killed by firing across border during attack on Agua Prieta.

Stephen Littles, private, November 26, Nogales, Ariz.: Killed by Carranza men through mistaking the company for party of Villistas.

Total number of American soldiers killed as above, 16.

[Inclosure No. 12D.]

MEXICANS REPORTED KILLED IN AMERICAN TERRITORY.

Mexicans reported killed in American territory as a result of border troubles other than those resulting from firing across the international line during engagements in Mexican border towns during the period 1913 to 1915, inclusive:

1913	2
1915	87

NOTE.—One is said to have been killed by Carranza river guards and one was reported killed by Villa soldiers.

Mexicans reported killed in American territory as a result of firing across the international line during engagements in Mexican border towns during the period 1913 to 1915, inclusive:

1913	1
1914	2

NOTE.—For the years omitted in above tabulation no deaths appear to have been reported.

Total number of Mexicans killed as above, 92.

Total number of Americans killed on the American side as shown by foregoing list	20
Total number of American soldiers killed in United States territory as shown by foregoing list	16
Total number of Mexicans killed	92
Grand total	128

NOTE.—The lists of American civilians and soldiers killed on American territory, as above stated, are thought to be substantially correct. However, many of the border troubles occurred at a point in the interior of border States, where the local authorities had sole jurisdiction, and there were probably a number of persons killed of which no report was made to the State or War Department. The number of Mexicans killed, as shown above, is based on reports received by the State Department and is thought to be approximately correct.

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